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COMMENTATORS DISCUSS KAMPELMAN'S RETURN TO U.S.

TASS' Bogachev

LD251555 Moscow TASS International Service in Russian 1529 GMT 25 Mar 85

[Text] Moscow, 25 Mar (TASS) -- Vladimir Bogachev, TASS military observer, writes:

It transpires that Max Kampelman, head of the U.S. delegation to the Soviet-American talks on nuclear and space arms, is fulfilling two completely contradictory tasks. In Geneva, he is to conduct talks which are officially aimed at "preventing an arms race in space and putting a halt to it on earth", while in Washington he has been instructed to facilitate deployment [razvertyvaniye] of the very same arms systems which he is supposed to reduce in Geneva.

As the British say: "You can't have your cake and eat it too." According to the laws of logic, the Reagan administration can only set seriously one of these two mutually exclusive tasks. Which one?

The U.S. mass media reports that President Reagan has urgently called the head of the U.S. delegation in Geneva to Washington to ease the passage through Congress of the bill on appropriations for the production of a new batch of the MX intercontinental ballistic missiles. There is every reason to suppose that Kampelman has been set this task in all earnest.

Kampelman's urgent trip to Washington is yet another factor which makes one reflect on the real aims of the U.S. Administration at the Geneva talks. According to ABC, the head of the U.S. delegation in Geneva should "convince the Congress of the fact that the United States must have more nuclear weapons." Maybe he has also been given the task getting a blessing in Geneva for the deployment of a "large quantity of American nuclear weapons"? Or is he playing the role of Janus from Roman mythology, with one face for Washington and another for Geneva?

Central TV's Zorin

LD260042 Moscow Television Service in Russian 1800 GMT 25 Mar 85

[From the "Vremya" newscast]

[Text] The Washington administration is stepping up pressure on Congress with the aim of pushing through the MX missile production program. Over to Valentin Zorin, political observer of Central Television:

[Zorin] Hello, comrades! It is difficult to surprise Washington habitues who have seen the world with political wiliness, but nevertheless, the White House has just succeeded in doing this. In Washington it was announced that during the Soviet-U.S. talks in Geneva, the head of the U.S. delegation at these talks, Kampelman, was urgently called to the U.S. capital. Were new instructions necessary? Not at all. To the numerous questions from journalists, a White House spokesman replied that Kampelman's urgent recall was connected with the necessity to have him take a part in working over House of Representatives members who are faced with voting on new allocations for the MX missile. The logic of Washington leaders in this is primitively simple. They, you see, are in need of arguments to haggle with the Soviet Union, and put pressure on it. And so let them have the new missiles immediately, each with greater destructive power than all explosive devices used in World War II.

The White House reported that Kampelman is to convince legislators who are wavering under the pressure of public opinion that, they say, there exists a direct link between the Geneva talks and the allocations for the MX missile. I would not like to believe in such a cynical calculation -- to use deadly missiles as a tool for diplomatic bargaining -- but this is really what the White House is saying. The very same thing is being said by O'Neill, speaker of the House, who stressed that the administration is striving to use the new missiles as a trump card in the diplomatic game. According to him, however, the new missiles construction program, which will cost U.S. taxpayers the gigantic sum of $41 billion, will not increase U.S. security, for there is a fundamental defect inherent in this power -- it is both vulnerable and destructive in a deadly way.

As for the unplanned and urgent trip by Kampelman, head of the U.S. delegation at the Geneva talks, to Washington to perform the role of pushing the new Pentagon military program, it must be observed that it contradicts radically and most decisively the task officially entrusted to him and the delegation led by him -- to conduct talks not on increasing, but reducing nuclear missile weapons, including MX type weapons. I will remark, incidentally, that Kampelman is leaving Geneva at the very time when discussion there was to begin on the problems of non-militarization of space. In connection with this, a legitimate question cannot but arise: What aims is Washington pursuing at the Geneva talks? Is it really preparing to strive for the halt of the nuclear missile arms race on earth and in space, or, is it using the talks as a screen, to free its hands for augmenting such a race?

ZHOLKVER SPEAKS ON CONGRESS VOTING FOR MX FUNDS

OW260901 Moscow Television Service in Russian 1100 GMT 25 Mar 85

[From the "World Today" program presented by Aleksandr Zholkver]

[Text] Voting is scheduled in the U.S. Congress tomorrow on the government's demand to apportion another $1.5 billion for the production of a new batch of MX intercontinental ballistic missiles. On the eve of the voting, the White House is exerting overall pressure on congressmen to obtain their agreement to another militaristic act.

American observers note that on the eve of the voting, President Reagan, in his regular radio address, assailed Congress with sharp criticism. He advertised in every way his program of rearming America, categorically opposed reduction of military spending, and at the same time, demanded the elimination of many important social programs. Nevertheless, writes THE NEW YORK TIMES, the superiority in votes the administration had on the question of allocating appropriations for the production of another 21 MX missiles is evaporating, and supporters of the missile are for the first time frankly concerned that the program may be defeated. So, to strengthen pressure on congressmen, U.S. diplomat Kampelman, who heads the U.S. delegation at the Geneva talks, has been urgently summoned to Washington on orders from the President. As reported by the U.S. CBS television company, President Reagan intends to include him in the lobbying campaign in favor of the MX missiles.

Indeed, it turns out that while still in Geneva, Kampelman called congressmen to persuade them to vote for appropriations for the missiles, and now continues to indoctrinate the deputies in person. How is one to reconcile this with the fact that the officially declared tasks of the Geneva talks are to cease the nuclear arms race on earth and not to permit it in space?

Equally odious are the statements resounding from the White House that the MX missiles will supposedly become some kind of trump card at the Geneva talks.

Well, one has to say that U.S. military and diplomatic experts are themselves admitting the fallacy of such assertions. Smith and Warnke, former leaders of U.S. delegations at the SALT talks, and also former U.S. Defense Secretary Clifford warned about this in a special notice on the pages of THE WASHINGTON POST. Citing this notice, former American astronaut and now Senator John Glenn, warning that the administration was intimidating Congress and engaging in behind-the-scenes propaganda, stated: In the sphere of armaments, we are already familiar with the long story of so-called trump cards at talks becoming an obstacle to the success of those talks.

I will add to this that the Washington administration is not only pushing the arms race in the United States itself, but also trying in every way to include U.S. military bloc allies in this. The latest testimony to this was the interview just given by U.S. General Rogers, commander in chief of the NATO Armed Forces. He not only expressed satisfaction that Belgium had finally begun deployment of cruise missiles, but also expressed the hope that the Netherlands would make the same decision. As is known, NATO plans to deploy 48 cruise missiles on its territory.

However, the matter is not only confined to missiles. The same interview by General Rogers contains an unambiguous demand to also build up conventional armaments. The U.S. commander in chief specifically reported that he had already charged NATO staff with developing a so-called conceptual military framework on this question for the remainder of the current century and the beginning of the next. Here you have it: prospective planning for the arms race, even up to the year 2000, for a few generations in advance! However, these are the plans of U.S. generals; the people have other plans.

CHERNYSHEV CRITICIZES U.S. PLANS FOR ABM SYSTEM

LD251646 Moscow TASS International Service in Russian 1421 GMT 25 Mar 85

["Preparing First Nuclear Strike" -- TASS headline]

[Text] Moscow, 23 Mar (TASS) -- TASS military observer Vladimir Chernyshev writes:

"We will cover all of America with a reliable shield," say representatives of the U.S. Administration, trying to convince Americans to pay many billions of dollars for the "star wars" program. "The antimissile defense system with space-based elements will defend you too," Washington says to calm its allies, trying to harness them to its "star chariot." "We will make nuclear weapons powerless and obsolete," the U.S. President says, trying to calm the entire alarmed world.

All these promises and slogans, however, are in reality an absolute bluff. They in Washington would like to make their nuclear strategic weapons not "powerless" and "obsolete" but more powerful so that they need not "fear" the other side's defense. Aiming at this goal the United States does not restrict itself to developing a system which will secure "an antimissile shield" but, simultaneously, in strict secrecy, they carry out intensive work on increasing means for penetrating the antimissile defense of the potential enemy. According to the British paper OBSERVER, within the framework of the secret program the United States is developing "future strategic missile systems" with maneuverable warheads for strategic missiles, dipole reflectors and light-reflecting sprays which can be dispersed on the trajectory of missiles and deceive antimissile defense detection and tracing equipment, devices to confuse the enemy's defense with false "targets," radar means, and so on.

All this is intended to ensure the possibility for American missiles to "penetrate" the antimissile "shield" if it should be created in the Soviet Union. Work is being done not only in laboratories. During the recent test of an MX missile over the Pacific, two of its ten warheads, which flew on a trajectory different to that of the others, were launched in the framework of a fixed program. The intention is that, in the future, maneuverable warheads will be installed not only on MX missiles but also on the new Midgetman missiles. In the draft budget for fiscal 1986 allocations for the program are doubled compared with this year -- from $98 million to $174 million.

According to Western military experts, the very existence of this program shows that "President Reagan's ideas about the ideal system to reduce the effectiveness of nuclear weapons to nil is an illusion." However, one must face the truth and call things by their true names. This is not an illusion but deliberate deception.

In publicizing and embellishing his star wars "dream" the head of the White House once said in the heat of the moment that he would allegedly be ready to "share" antimissile defense technology with the Soviet Union. The President prefers not to recall this now. It is now being said openly in West Europe that, since work is being conducted in the United States on creating the means to overcome antimissile defense, Washington has never had any such intention. Once again it is just empty words.

The U.S. Administration's practical deeds attest to just one thing: its preparations for the potential to inflict a nuclear first strike. While talking profusely about "defense," official Washington is carrying out a qualitative and quantitative buildup of strategic nuclear armaments, carrying out work on a large-scale antimissile defense system, and creating the means to overcome a similar antimissile defense of a potential enemy. Its strivings and hopes are clear -- it is, after overcoming the other side's defense, to inflict a disarming nuclear strike on it and, albeit partially repelling the now weakened retaliatory strike on its own territory, to win a nuclear war.

These hopes are indeed illusory. The creation of an antimissile defense will only lead to an expansion of the arms race in accordance with the law that "an action gives rise to a counteraction," a sharp upset of strategic stability, a heightening of the threat of nuclear war, and a lowering of security both for the United States and for its allies.

WEINBERGER TOUR AIMS FOR ALLIED SUPPORT OF SDI

LD241027 Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 0330 GMT 24 Mar 85

[Text] According to news agency reports, U.S. Defense Secretary Weinberger sets out on a European tour today. He will visit Luxembourg where he will take part in the 2-day NATO defense ministers meeting, and later, while in Paris, will have talks with President Mitterrand and Defense Minister Hernu. The trip's basic aim is to garner support from the NATO bloc partners for Reagan's notorious Strategic Defense Initiative, which envisages the creation of a wide-scale antimissile defense system with space-based elements.

In this connection the UPI news agency notes that many of America's European allies are now expressing grave misgivings over the star wars plans. These doubts are explained by two considerations. In the first place, there is fear that the Soviet-U.S. Geneva talks may break off if the United States refuses to discuss the so-called Strategic Defense Initiative. A breaking off of the talks will inevitably lead to an intensification of the arms race, in particular in space. Secondly, concern is also being aroused by the star wars plans itself, since senior U.S. figures and specialists who were given the task of convincing the Europeans of its advisability were unable to do so.

Now, as we see, the heavy artillery has been brought out: The defense secretary is coming to Europe in an attempt to explain the Reagan program.

U.S. PULLING OUT 'ALL STOPS' ON SDI PERSUASION

LD232038 Moscow Television Service in Russian 1530 GMT 23 Mar 85

[From the "Vremya" newscast; video talk by political observer Georgiy Zubkov]

[Text] Hello, comrades! A competition has been announced in Washington to find the person who can think up the most successful, reassuring, and soothing name for the Strategic Defense Initiative. Two years have passed to the day since President Reagan announced this initiative. It has come to be firmly defined as "star wars," and not "protection from nuclear weapons." Two years have passed, and things are being put on a practical footing: Funds are being allocated, teams of scientists are being put together, and work plans and schedules are being drawn up.

However, not everything is going as smoothly as those who came up with the initiative would like. People are making objections to them and arguing with them, and there is disagreement in Washington itself and in the capitals of Western Europe. The allies are skeptical of the star wars program and are accepting it with reservations, so all the stops have to be pulled out, from a competition for a new name for the initiative to visits to their intractable partners.

A group of high-ranking U.S. officials is already traveling about the West European capitals, from Copenhagen to Oslo, and from Oslo to Bonn, The Hague, and Madrid. Officially, it is called "an explanation of the space strategy of the White House", but essentially it is plain and simple pressure, which has entered the practice of U.S. diplomacy.

On Sunday, too, U.S. Defense Secretary Weinberger will set off for Western Europe with the same aims. First, he will meet the NATO defense ministers in Luxembourg, and then he will go to Paris for 3 days. The U.S. Administration envisages that the talks with President Mitterrand and Defense Minister Hernu will not be simple; the Pentagon chief has to get France's official recognition of Reagan's star wars designs.

There is much talk of the moral categories of the plan, but no, it is an immoral one. It is immoral because it will not decrease the threat of war, but increase it; it will lead not to a decrease in the level of arms, but to an increase. They assert that it is just scientific research, but who can believe that? Why load a weapon if you have no intention of firing it? They speak expansively about a "fresh stimulus for arms control," but once again these are lies. The Reagan initiative does not strengthen the antimissile defense treaty; it undermines it. It is not fortuitous that in Paris, London, and Bonn there is concern over the fact that the U.S. Strategic Defense Initiative may damage the Soviet-U.S. talks in Geneva. Yes, their success, the results achieved, depend first and foremost on whether both sides strictly adhere to the agreement reached on the subject and aims of the talks. This was stated once again during yesterday's meeting in the Kremlin with representatives of the Socialist International. The Soviet Union wants the arms race on earth to end. The Soviet Union wants the arms race in space to be prevented.

CHERNYSHEV STRESSES NEED TO END 'STAR WARS' PLAN

LD221801 Moscow TASS in English 1704 GMT 22 Mar 85

["'Star Wars' Preparation Must Be Ended" -- TASS headline]

[Text] Moscow March 22 TASS -- TASS military news analyst Vladimir Chernyshev writes:

There are different kinds of anniversaries: Some are celebrated, other remembered with sorrow. It is to the latter that the second anniversary of U.S. President Reagan's speech on March 23, 1983, belongs: He announced on that day the U.S. so-called "Strategic Defence Initiative." According to THE NEW YORK TIMES, that speech caught unawares even some of presidential advisers, while veteran Pentagon men asked each other: "What the devil does this strategic defence mean?"

Their surprise was clearly feigned. The "initiative," which came to be known in the USA as the "star wars" programme, well fitted Washington's course of seeking military superiority. Having failed to tip strategic parity in its favour on earth, Washington decided to achieve this in space. The main plan behind the establishment of a large space-based ABM system is to try to secure the possibility to use with impunity the "irresistible nuclear sword" and to give a "new meaning" to the strategy of first nuclear strike and to the concepts of "limited" and "protracted" nuclear wars. The actual implementation of the "star wars" concept would lead to the development of weapons of aggression, expanding the first strike potential.

The U.S. Administration is pressing for larger and larger funds to sustain the arms race. Speaking at a press-conference in the White House on March 21, the U.S. President tried to revitalise his campaign of unprecedented pressure on congressmen in a bid to secure appropriations for the further buildup of the U.S. strategic nuclear potential and reiterated the intention to intensify work on the "star wars" programme.

Washington has been trying hard for two years now to conceal the true meaning of the "star wars" programme. Spokesmen for the administration point to the defensive character of the "initiative" and claim that it would contribute to stronger stability, "render nuclear weapons impotent" and make them "obsolete."

But sensible people all over the world clearly realise the grave danger posed to the world by Washington's "initiative." It is aimed at subverting the treaty on the ABM systems, which was concluded in perpetuity and which constitutes the cornerstone of the limitation of strategic armaments, and at disrupting the organic relationship between limitations on defensive and offensive strategic systems, which would have an extremely adverse effect on prospects for the limitation and reduction of nuclear weapons.

The Soviet Union will immediately counter the U.S. attempts to tip the military balance. In this way the "initiative' will give an impetus to another, even costlier and more dangerous round of the arms race, a race in both defensive and especially offensive armaments. Washington's hopes that "the Russians will be unable to keep up with us" are absolutely groundless. The Soviet Union will never allow strategic parity to be upset. It is just too bad for the world that this parity will be restored at a higher level of armaments.

The only sensible way to strengthen stability and remove the threat of nuclear war is to reach agreement on the immediate ending of the arms race, primarily the race in nuclear weapons, on earth and on preventing it in space.

The Soviet Union keeps reiterating the firmness and consistency of its course of actual and major reductions in the arms arsenals, a course against the development of ever new weapon systems in space or on earth. The interests of mankind demand that the possibilities opened by the Soviet-U.S. talks in Geneva be not missed. It is more than time to put an end to dangerous "star wars" preparations.

KRASNAYA ZVEZDA DENIES ARMS CONTROL VIOLATIONS

PM251525 Moscow KRASNAYA ZVEZDA in Russian 23 Mar Second Edition p 5

[Article by Colonel A. Fedorov under the rubric "Facts Against Lies": "Shifting the Blame"]

[Text] In the U.S. capital people continue to dwell on the question of alleged Soviet violations of nuclear test treaties. Although Washington does not have and cannot have any evidence of this, the question was brought up again in a recently published report by President R. Reagan to Congress.

What is the purpose of this malicious slander? First and foremost, to sow doubts about the sincerity of the Soviet stance on banning nuclear weapon tests. But this stance is clear and unequivocal. It envisages the immediate resumption of the talks broken off by the United States in 1980 on elaborating a treaty on the total and general prohibition of nuclear weapon tests and the entry into force, through ratification, of the previously concluded Soviet-American treaties on limiting underground nuclear weapon tests (1974) and on underground nuclear explosions for peaceful purposes (1976).

This constructive Soviet line has found extensive support in the United Nations and among the peace-loving public in most countries, including the United States itself. But there has been no response to the Soviet stance from the U.S. Administration. It does not want to resume the talks. Nor does it want to ratify the 1974 and 1976 treaties. This is the second reason for the appearance of official Washington's fabrications. Their purpose is clear -- to whitewash its unseemly stance on the question of banning nuclear tests and to justify its line of wrecking the existing accords.

It is many years now since the aforementioned treaties were signed, and all this time the U.S. Administration has been coming up with farfetched excuses for not ratifying them. It is now talking about the need to review these accords, allegedly because it is impossible to monitor their observance, but this excuse is thoroughly false and hyprocritical. Provisions on effective monitoring, which will come into force the moment the sides exchange ratification instruments, are contained in both of the aforementioned treaties, but they have not been tested in practice solely because of the White House's obstructionist line. The question here is by no means monitoring, but the U.S. ruling circles' policy, a policy of arms race and unbridled buildup of arsenals of more and more types and varieties of nuclear weapons. Washington's refusal to ratify the treaties is actually fear of the entry into force of the clear-cut and effective monitoring system envisaged by them.

The desire to distract attention from their own gross violations of treaty obligations by means of malicious insinuations and to shift the blame onto someone else is another reason for the fabrications directed at the USSR.

Our country always has unswervingly fulfilled and is fulfilling its international agreements. Washington has no reason to doubt that the Soviet Union will keep its word and not take any steps incompatible with the provisions of the treaties on nuclear tests.

It is indicative that even in the United States a number of authoritative institutions are convinced that the USSR has not exceeded the agreed threshold of 150 kilotons in carrying out its nuclear tests. This fact, THE WASHINGTON POST writes, is confirmed by geophysicists at Colombia and Colorado Universities and by the U.S. Geological Administration. "None of the Russians' biggest test explosions in the last 5 years have exceeded the set level," leading U.S. seismologist L. Sykes said. This is also the conclusion of a special study by the Lawrence Livermore Laboratory, commissioned, incidentally, by the U.S. Defense Department.

As for Washington's stance on the question of observance of commitments under the 1974 and 1976 treaties, it was assessed by the Soviet Union in a memorandum handed to the U.S. side in January 1984. It says, in part, that despite the assurances that have been given, the United States is evidently continuing to exceed the maximum permitted yield for test charges.

Competent Soviet organs have repeatedly drawn attention to cases of discharge of radioactive substances outside U.S. national territory as a result of U.S. underground nuclear explosions, which is a violation of the 1963 treaty banning nuclear weapons tests in the atmosphere, in outer space, and under water.

The hyprocritical pose of "accuser" adopted by representatives of the U.S. Administration fools no one. The U.S. reluctance to hold talks on the total and general prohibition of nuclear weapon tests and its refusal to ratify the 1974 and 1976 treaties speak for themselves. The prospect of the cessation or maximum limitation of nuclear weapon tests scares the current U.S. Administration, since it sees this a serious obstacle to the implementation if its large-scale program for the buildup of nuclear arms.

Against this background the U.S. side's efforts to discredit the USSR's honest and responsible approach to the fulfillment of its treaty commitments are totally futile.

CEMA FOREIGN TRADE COMMISSION MEETS 19-21 MAR

PM251338 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 23 Mar 85 Morning Edition p 4

[TASS report: "Cooperation Developing"]

[Text] A rountine session of the CEMA Standing Commission on Foreign Trade was held in Moscow 19-21 March. Delegations from the CEMA countries and the SFRY took part in the work of the commission session. Representatives from the International Bank for International Cooperation and the International Investment Bank took part in the session.

The results of the commission's work in 1984 and the further avenues for its activity in the light of the tasks set by the CEMA economic summit were discussed.

Reciprocal trade between the CEMA countries in 1984 increased 11 percent in comparison with 1983, exceeding the growth of their overall commodity exchange. As a result the proportion of reciprocal trade in the CEMA countries' overall foreign trade turnover continued to grow. The level of foreign trade turnover between the CEMA countries and the SFRY increased.

Questions of multilateral cooperation among the CEMA countries' foreign trade scientific research institutes were examined and a program for their joint scientific work in 1985-1986 was approved. The session also discussed other questions of multilateral cooperation among the CEMA countries in the foreign trade sphere.

FURTHER ON WORLD PEACE COUNCIL PROCEEDINGS

Kuznetsov, Ponomarev at Reception

LD252143 Moscow TASS in English 2053 GMT 25 Mar 85

[Text] Moscow March 25 TASS -- The Presidium of the USSR Supreme Soviet has given a reception in honour of participants in the session of the Presidium of the World Peace Council.

The reception was attended by the alternate member of the Political Bureau of the CPSU Central Committee, first deputy president of the Presidium of the USSR Supreme Soviet Vasiliy Kuznetsov, the alternate member of the Political Bureau of the CPSU Central Committee, secretary of the CPSU Central Committee, chairman of the Foreign Affairs Commission of the Soviet of Nationalities of the USSR Supreme Soviet Boris Ponomarev, the chairman of the Soviet of the Union of the USSR Supreme Soviet Lev Tolkunov and heads of Soviet public organizations.

Addressing the audience, Vasiliy Kuznetsov said: "It is generally recognized today that the large-scale and massive anti-war movement has become an important factor of the public and political life. State and public figures cannot but take into account its demands today, if they hold dear the destinies of peoples of their countries and the future of the whole of mankind."

The Soviet Union steadily and consistently pursues the policy of peace and is doing all that depends on it for removing the war threat. New Soviet-American talks have been started in Geneva on Soviet initiative. However, in order to achieve success, it is vitally important that the other side -- the United States -- also display a constructive approach.

Participants in the session held on the eve of the 40th anniversary of the victory of nations over fascism and the end of World War II stressed with every reason not only the world historic importance of this great victory, but also its lessons of ever-lasting importance drawn by all progressive mankind from the tragic experience of the past. The main conclusion is that it is necessary to actively oppose the war before it breaks out.

On behalf of the Presidium of the USSR Supreme Soviet, Vasiliy Kuznetsov wished all the participants in the anti-war movement new accomplishments in their responsible and noble work.

In a reply speech Romesh Chandra expressed on behalf of participants in the Moscow session profound gratitude to the Presidium of the USSR Supreme Soviet, the Soviet Peace Committee and Soviet people for their attention for the work of the session. It gives us more strength and inspires all the peace champions to more effective actions, he said.

Our struggle is gaining in scope, and we are full of resolve to promote the unification of all the peace-loving forces of the planet, to overcome all the obstacles on the way to delivering mankind from the threat of a nuclear catastrophe.

The reception was held in a warm and cordial atmosphere.

'Text' of Declaration

LD251537 Moscow TASS in English 1127 GMT 25 Mar 85

[Text] Moscow March 25 TASS -- Follows the text of declaration of the Presidential Committee of the World Peace Council, adopted at the session of the Presidential Committee of the World Peace Council in the Soviet capital today:

This year the people of the world are celebrating the 40th anniversary of the great victory over Nazi Germany and militarist Japan in World War II. Forty years ago, the dark night of fascist enslavement and genocide ended in Europe. The criminal conspiracy of the Nazis to reverse the course of history and establish a fascist "new order" was smashed. The future of world civilization, progress and democracy was saved from the plague of fascism.

Thousands of cities, towns, and villages were destroyed. Fifty million people lost their lives -- some on the battlefields, some in the resistance movement, some tortured to death in concentration camps, some in gas chambers, some in air raids, and many more, far from the front line, from hunger and hardship. The peace we have now had for forty years was obtained at a terrible price. And that was a "conventional" war, not a nuclear one.

The victory over Hitler's Germany and militarist Japan gave rise to great political and social changes, to an upsurge of forces of peace and progress throughout the world, to the emergence of a community of socialist nations. The old colonial empires crumbled and over 70 new states were born. A surging movement of the peoples for peace, the most powerful movement of our time, swept across the world. The highest tribute is paid to those in many lands who gave their lives in the struggle against fascism. All humanity salutes the Soviet people who made a decisive contribution to that victory.

The peoples of the anti-Hitler coalition fought side by side. This coalition was a great brotherhood of fighters against fascism. The blood they shed together cemented the alliance of forces for peace. They proved that no differences in political and social systems, no divergence of views could be obstacles to a common stand in the face of impending danger. What was true in the war against fascism is even more true today facing the threat of nuclear catastrophe. Now, as forty years ago, what is vital is a great alliance of forces of peace. Let 1985, the year of the 40th anniversary of victory, become the year of unity of all peace forces in the struggle to prevent a nuclear war!

History has proved that fascism breeds war. The danger of a resurgence of fascism is real. The warning signals are increasing: Terrorist acts by neo-fascist gangs in different countries, the growing propaganda of racism, the revanchist claims to the territory of neighbouring countries; all of these are constant reminders of this danger. For example, take the tragedy of Chile, El Salvador, Guatemala, Haiti and Paraguay, the reign of terror in South Africa, the bloody crimes of Israel in Lebanon and in the Arab lands they have seized, of the counterrevolutionaries in Afghanistan, Angola, Mozambique and Nicaragua, and of the Pol Pot butchers in Kampuchea. Peoples of the world, be on your guard! Stop the war before it breaks out!

This most important lesson of history has never been as relevant as in this age of nuclear weapons, for the criminal adventures of those who today want to dominate the world can irresistibly entail the destruction of our civilization.

The historic decisions made at Yalta and Potsdam are thorns in the flesh of those who dream of revanchism, those who, under the banner of another "crusade" against socialism, would like to turn back the clock of history. The attempts being made to revise the post-war territorial and political settlements or the realities arising from them must be rejected.

The threat to peace in Europe stems not from the alleged "division" of the continent, nor from the existence of states with different social systems. The danger arises from the feverish arms drive let loose by the United States and their closest NATO allies, who have abandoned the policy of detente and co-operation pursued in the 1970s and stationed U.S. first-strike nuclear weapons in Western Europe against the will of the peoples. Today the world is faced with a new threat -- one without parallel in history.

The frantic efforts of the present U.S. Administration to carry the arms drive into outer space spell disaster not only to one country or another, but to all humanity. If outer space becomes a theatre of military operations, then instead of general and complete disarmament so desired by the peoples of the world, the arms build-up would be complete -- on earth and in outer space -- and this would be uncontrollable and irreversible.

But this grave danger can and must be averted. The Soviet-American talks in Geneva on space and nuclear armaments give grounds for hope. These talks were made possible, in no small measure, by the powerful demands of the peace forces of the world. Today it is absolutely essential to maintain and strengthen these demands so that the joint commitment taken by the two sides before the whole world, on the substance and aims of the talks, will be translated into reality. The talks must lead to effective agreements to prevent an arms drive in outer space, to stop the arms race on earth, and to ban all nuclear weapons everywhere. The hopes of the peoples shall not be frustrated! The World Peace Council calls for the renunciation of the U.S. plans for militarisation of outer space!

It calls for a freeze on the nuclear arsenals of both sides, a halt to the deployment of new types of nuclear missiles in Europe, and the removal of those missiles already deployed. It also calls for a total ban on nuclear weapon tests, for a commitment by all nuclear powers to renounce the first use of nuclear weapons and to remove all foreign nuclear bases, for the creation of nuclear weapon-free zones and for drastic cuts in military budgets. We support the campaign against visits to ports by warships carrying nuclear weapons. The total prohibition and elimination of nuclear weapons and all other weapons of mass destruction are the crucial task of the peace movement.

The World Peace Council calls upon the forces of peace in all countries to celebrate the 40th anniversary of victory by taking mass actions for peace, against the threat of nuclear war, which has reached new heights with the militarisation of outer space, against revanchism and neofascism, against the madness of the arms race, against the policy of aggression and intervention and in defence of the freedom and independence of the peoples.

The fate of Grenada comes as a stern warning, the USA continues to threaten over Nicaragua. This calls for still more vigorous and concerted efforts in protest against the imperialist policy of arbitrary action and violence, and in defense of the legal right of the people of Nicaragua to self-determination and freedom.

The dangers of war are increasing in different parts of the world, the Middle East, Southeast Asia, the Indian Ocean and the Pacific. The rearmament of Pakistan by the USA poses a threat to peace and security in that region. The situation in the Middle East is of particular concern. The build-up of U.S. nuclear weapons in South Korea and the provocative "Team Spirit" manoeuvres create a grave situation in the region. Peace is indivisible. So also is our joint struggle for an end of the nuclear threat, for international solidarity and for national liberation.

This struggle demands a pooling of efforts by the world movement for peace, security and disarmament with the peoples of the developing countries fighting for their rights, for the liquidation of the harsh legacy of colonialism, and for fair and equitable international economic relations. The urgent problems of development cannot be solved and hunger cannot be eliminated while the arms race continues. The same forces that are building up tension throughout the world and escalating the arms drive are responsible for the sufferings of those who have fallen victims to imperialist oppression and exploitation.

The World Peace Council urges mass support for the Delhi Declaration of six states from four continents calling for an immediate freeze on the development, production, testing and deployment of nuclear weapons and preventing an arms race in outer space. It proposes that May 22, 1985 -- the anniversary of the first appeal launched by the six states -- be marked as a world day of mass action in support of the Delhi Declaration.

The World Peace Council also calls for broadly-based and coordinated actions by peace forces in this year's notable event, the 10th anniversary of the Final Act of the European Security Conference in Helsinki.

Bearing in mind that 1985 is the 40th anniversary of the U.S. atomic bombings of Hiroshima and Nagasaki, the WPC calls upon the peace forces to observe August 6 and 9 as days of international common action for eliminating nuclear weapons, so that the tragedies of these cities will never be repeated.

This year marks the 40th anniversary of the United Nations. The World Peace Council calls for active support of its decisions, which contribute to the cause of peace, disarmament and development, and elimination of colonialism, racism and apartheid. There is an urgent need for the widest participation in the international year of youth, international year of peace and the world disarmament campaign proclaimed by the United Nations.

Peoples of the world! Forty years after the great victory over fascism the World Peace Council addresses this message to you: Turn this year of the 40th anniversary of the victory over fascism into the year of victory over the threat of nuclear war!

Appeal Against SDI

PM261146 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 26 Mar 85 First Edition p 5

[TASS report: "No to Star Wars!"]

[Text] A terrible threat is looming large over mankind: Life itself on our planet is in jeopardy.

Defying the clearly expressed will of millions of men and women in all continents, of an overwhelming majority of governments, the United States is stubbornly going ahead with its preparations for "star wars".

Its so-called "Strategic Defense Initiative" has nothing whatsoever to do with defense.

Its actual purpose is to secure a first-strike capability, while being protected by a "space shield", and thus keep the entire world in fear and dominate over it. That is why, along with boosting its military-space programs, the United States is increasing the rate at which it creates strategic nuclear weapons and is continuing the deployment of its medium-range nuclear missiles in Western Europe and the production of barbaric neutron, chemical and other types of weapons of mass annihilation.

The militarization of outer space would mean the beginning of a new, extremely dangerous kind of the arms race, heightening of confrontation and risk of universal catastrophe. The peoples and governments, concerned with the fate of the world, welcome the beginning of Soviet-American talks in Geneva which open prospects for preventing an arms race in outer space, halting and reversing it on earth so as to eliminate fully all nuclear weapons.

The unceasing U.S. efforts on implementing "star wars" plans threaten to torpedo the talks.

STOP PREPARATIONS FOR "STAR WARS"! ENSURE SUCCESS OF THE GENEVA TALKS! [capitalized sentence published in boldface]

We urge all movements and organizations, peoples and governments committed to peace and prevention of nuclear war, to raise their voice more resolutely than ever before in the powerful worldwide campaign against the militarization of outer space. If the "star wars" plans are not stopped today, it may be too late tomorrow.

NO TO "STAR WARS"! [published in boldface] -- Such is the general demand by all peace-loving forces. Outer space should serve peace and progress.

ALIYEV, PONOMAREV ON INTERNATIONAL YOUTH YEAR

PM251209 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 24 March 85 Morning Edition p 3

[TASS report: "Fatherly Concerns for a Worthy New Generation"]

[Text] Raising young people to be ideologically tempered, devoted to the party's cause, and true to the ideals of Soviet patriotism and socialist internationalism has always been the Communists' prime concern and duty. This was stressed at a session of the comission for holding International Youth Year in the USSR, which was held 23 March.

The session was addressed by Commission Chairman Geydar Aliyev, member of the Political Bureau of the CPSU Central Committee and first deputy chairman of the Council of Ministers of the USSR.

We see the UN decision to proclaim 1985 International Youth Year, he said, as a timely and signal initiative, for the problems of the times. The motto of International Youth Year has become "Involvement, development, peace." This motto reflects the objective need to increase the role of the young in efforts to safeguard peace and strengthen friendship and cooperation among nations.

The noble aims of marking International Youth Year have been vigorously backed in this country, Geydar Aliyev said, and this is only natural, for the Communist Party and the Soviet state's attention to the young is not a provisional compaign. Concern for youth is one of the cornerstones of Leninism, a historic gain of a society of real socialism.

Questions of improving the communist education of young people at the present stage of development were profoundly reflected and developed in the decisions of the 26th party congress and the subsequent Central Committee plenums and in the CPSU Central Committee resolution "On Further Improving Party Leadership of the Komsomol and on Increasing Its Role in the Communist Education of Young People," which defined urgent tasks in work with the country's young people in present-day conditions.

The Communist Party, it was noted at the 11 March Extraordinary Plenum of the Central Committee, will develop young people's creative initiative in every way.

The Land of the Soviets is a vivid example of truly fatherly, all encompassing concern for the young generation. Metaphorically speaking, in the USSR every year could, without exaggeration, be called youth year.

The observance of International Youth Year in the USSR, the speaker said, will become a veritable review of our social achievements, of all that has been done and is being done in the soviet country for the young. The soviet system of government has provided the youth with every opportunity to assert themselves in what is most important -- in work. Solidly ensured by socialism and formalized by the Constitution of the USSR, the right to work here is enriched and supplemented with more opportunities and guarantees every year. The successes in such an area of vital importance to the young as education are no less obvious. Education here is universal, secondary, and free, while in the West it is what they call selective. Even in the United States of America, the richest country of the capitalist world, millions of children have no access to education.

The reform of general and vocational education, which is in essence a broad social program for the formation of the young generations, is a qualitatively new, higher stage in the development of public education in our country.

The Soviet state does everything in order to fully ensure the young people's studies, work, and leisure. This is social justice in action. Socialism has put the entire wealth of spiritual culture at the service of the people, including the younger generation. The very way of life here is such as not only enables the young people to enjoy cultural benefits but also makes them actively involved in enriching society's spiritual potential.

The youth play an active social and political role in Soviet society, Geydar Aliyev said. They go through a school of labor, ideological, political, and moral education in the Young Communist League (Komsomol), a major public organization with about 42 million members.

The Soviet youth realize their broad opportunities to participate in running the affairs of society and the state through the bodies of power of the people -- the soviets of people's deputies. The Supreme Soviet of the USSR, the highest legislative agency in this country, has 330 deputies who are younger than 30. Young people in this age category make up over 30 percent of the deputies serving on all soviets. These figures alone show how fully the interests of the young are represented in the bodies of Soviet power and the real rights enjoyed by the young people in this country, unlike many of their peers in the West. The Leninist Komsomol makes active use of the right, granted to it by the Constitution of the USSR, to initiate legislation and participates in planning and implementing the most important measures of the state.

The young workers, the speaker said, are involved in managing production affairs as equals through their work collectives. New, highly significant opportunities for this are provided by the Law on Labor Collectives.

A very broad scope for the application of creative forces, enthusiasm, and knowledge of young people is offered by the intensification of social production, the struggle for the establishment of order, organization, and discipline everywhere, the movement for savings and thrift, the large-scale economic experiments, and the implementation of the energy and food programs.

The younger generation's hopes and concerns, which are indivisible from the hopes and concerns of all humanity, are inseparably linked with the all-important issue of the present day -- that of preserving peace and the very life on earth, Geydar Aliyev stressed. The horizons of the future have been darkened by the military preparations of the United States and its NATO allies, the expansionist ambitions of imperialism and its desire to dictate its will to the whole world and interfere in the domestic affairs of sovereign states. The Communist Party and the Soviet state work tirelessly, consistently and actively to improve the world climate and uphold the prime human right, the prime right of the youth -- the right to life. As has been stressed at the CPSU Central Committee's recent special plenary meeting, our foreign policy is clear and consistent. It is a policy of peace and progress. To goodwill, the Soviet Union will always respond with goodwill, as it will respond to trust with trust.

The Soviet young people back this policy wholeheartedly and take an active part in executing it themselves, by working selflessly and maintaining an active stand in life.

The year's central event will be the 12th World Festival of Youth and Students in Moscow. This representative forum of the young is called upon to help further to consolidate the world's democratic youth. Its numerous participants and guests will be able to see for themselves what real rights and opportunities are enjoyed by the young in Soviet society in all fields of life.

Our ideological adversaries, Geydar Aliyev said further, are trying to use activities related to International Youth Year for their own purposes. They are out to draw the young away from discussing the main, urgent problems, including the struggle to defend peace and remove the threat of a thermonuclear catastrophe.

In the conditions of the sharp exacerbation of the ideological struggle, the holding of International Youth Year acquires profound political significance. This means it is necessary to step up the cultivation in our young people of class awareness, a genuinely socialist way of thinking, and a profound knowledge and understanding on the part of young people both of their own very broad social opportunities that are not available to their peers in the West, and of the fact that the standard and quality of life in our society are improved from year to year to exactly the same extent that we work harder. Lastly, it is necessary to conduct more active, convincing, consistent, and assertive propaganda, both within the country and abroad, of the USSR's peace-loving foreign policy initiatives, our socialist values and ideals, our way of life, and our historical experience in solving young people's problems.

The activity of our commission and of the commissions for youth year in the USSR which are being set up locally, the speaker noted, must take place in full accordance with the Leninist concept of education of the young generation which has been elaborated by our party. The steady improvement of the conditions of Soviet young people's life, work, and education is a constant concern for our party and state. But in youth year it is also necessary to consider what could be done additionally in this respect.

International Youth Year can and should help us appreciably in the noble cause of fostering patriotism, for youth year coincides with a great holiday -- the 40th anniversary of the victory over Hitlerite fascism and Japanese militarism. Purposeful, efficient work to imbue the young with love for the homeland and inculcate unshakable readiness to defend socialist gains should be among the commission's main priorities. It is essential to convincingly, substantially and organically show the tremendous role which has been played by the Soviet people's victory over fascism in ensuring a lasting peace to all mankind, including the younger generations.

All the measures being carried out within the framework of the year must be aimed at further improving the ideological and moral education of young people, increasing their labor and social activeness, and considerably stepping up attention toward questions of improving the organization of their work, education, daily life, and leisure.

Boris Ponomarev, alternate member of the Political Bureau of the CPSU Central Committee and secretary of the CP3U Central Committee who is the commission's deputy chairman, said in his speech it is important that, having proclaimed International Youth Year, the United Nations Organization has urged the member states to pay their attention to the three main goals -- involvement, development and peace, that is to drawing the young into all spheres of social and political affairs, encouraging their contribution to the development of society, and ensuring peace to the present and coming generations.

The socialist system has delivered the young people from exploitation and inequality. It has guaranteed them sociopolitical rights not in words but in fact, ensured them broadest access to creative work, education and culture, and given them confidence in the future. In capitalist countries millions of young people daily encounter the most acute problems engendered by the policies of imperialism. The position of the younger generation is exacerbated by imperialism's policy of material preparations for war, the wasteful arms race and military ventures. The military-industrial complex, militarism and political reaction merging with it -- these are the younger generation's enemies. A universal and lasting peace is an indispensable prerequisite of progress in all fields of human endeavor, and is the main condition of ensuring the vital rights and interests of the planet's youth.

This year marks the 40th anniversary since the victory over Hitlerite fascism and Japanese militarism, the decisive contribution to securing which was made by the Soviet Union, by the Soviet people. It is around the 40th anniversary of the victory and it historical lessons that imperialist forces are now deploying all their arsenal of disinformation, mendacious concoctions and slanderous insinuations. They want to smother in the young the natural feeling of gratitude to the Soviet people and instill the myth of a "Soviet threat" into their minds.

Having discarded all its election campaign assurances of its "commitment to peace", the U.S. Administration is displaying its aggressiveness ever more arrogantly, putting the arms race into ever higher gear and seeking to spread it to outer space.

The mounting hostile propaganda campaign against the USSR and other countries of the socialist community aims to cultivate the "image of the enemy" among the young and is becoming the main effort in the continuing "psychological war." They want to sanctify all this by the UN prestige and exploit Youth Year to further these ends.

It is important for the commission, the speaker said, to pay special attention to giving assistance to the Soviet preparatory committee of the 12th World Festival of Youth and Students.

The majority of the recommendations contained in the program of measures and events for International Youth Year have already been put into practice in our country or else are being resolved successfully as our society develops. The task is to ensure that every young Soviet person is marked by high ideological commitment, political and labor activeness, and loyalty to the principles of proletarian internationalism.

Reports on the course of preparations for this festival were made by Viktor Mishin, first secretary of the YCL Central Committee, Vladimir Promyslov, chairman of the Executive Committee of the Moscow City Soviet, Nikolay Tarasov, minister of light industry of the USSR, and Boris Panyukov, first deputy minister of civil aviation of the USSR.

The session participants discussed and approved a plan for the commission's work and a plan for measures to mark International Youth Year in the USSR.

Taking part in the commission's work were senior officials of the CPSU Central Committee, USSR Supreme Soviet Presidium, and USSR Council of Ministers, leaders of ministries, departments, and organizations and central scientific and ideological institutions, secretaries of the union republican Communist Party central committees and party obkoms, gorkoms, and raykoms, deputy chairmen of the union republican councils of ministers, first secretaries of union republican Komsomol central committees and Komsomol obkoms and gorkoms, and mass information and propaganda media workers.

OPEC SPECIAL COMMITTEE SEEKS PRICE STABILIZATION

PM201215 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 20 Mar 85 Morning Edition p 4

[Own correspondent V. Kuznetsov report: "Attempt To Stabilize the Market"]

[Text] Geneva -- The special committee set up at the December conference of the 13 OPEC member-states has begun its work to elaborate the conditions for stabilizing the world market in petroleum and petroleum products.

Ahmad Zaki Yamani, Saudi minister of petroleum and mineral affairs, the chairman of the committee, stated in a conversation with journalists that the attention of the members of the committee and the group of independent exporters that has been set up will be focused on the question of the observance of the oil production quotas set. The point is that recently a number of OPEC member-countries have increased sales of petroleum and petroleum products, justifying this step in terms of the need to resolve currency difficulties. In these conditions, Yamani stressed, the OPEC countries should "improve the coordination of their activity" with a view of resisting Western attempts to undermine the oil-producing countries' unity.

SOVIET SOLDIER SHOOTS U.S. LIAISON OFFICER IN GDR

Moscow's First Report

LD261029 Moscow World Service in English 1000 GMT 26 Mar 85

[Text] The ASSOCIATED PRESS agency reports the U.S. military communications mission located in Potsdam in the territory of the GDR is engaged in gathering intelligence on locally stationed Soviet troops. Ninety-five percent of our work, a former member of the U.S. mission told ASSOCIATED PRESS, consists of collecting this sort of data. The typical assignments of the staff are to film and photograph military facilities, he said. The former member of the mission qualified this activity as a game without rules and a very dangerous job. Therefore the death of an American officer who had penetrated into a restricted Soviet military area posed no surprise to him, he said. This could have happened earlier.

According to earlier reports the American officer, Major Nicholson, was spotted when he was taking pictures of military facilities within the clearly indicated restricted zone. He was killed when trying to flee from Soviet guards who had given a warning shot. The Soviet Embassy in Washington filed a protest to the U.S. Government in connection with the spy action. At the same time it expressed regret over the death of the U.S. officer.

TASS: U.S. Responsible

LD261422 Moscow TASS in English 1417 GMT 26 Mar 85

["Concerning the Incident With the American Serviceman" -- TASS headline]

[Text] Moscow March 26 TASS -- On Sunday, March 24, at about 16.00 a stranger wearing camouflage gear was discovered by a Soviet sentry, who was guarding military materiel, on the territory of a restricted military installation on the Group of Soviet Forces in Germany in the area of the town of Ludwigslust, Schwerin District. The stranger had secretly approached the storage, opened a window and taken pictures.

Acting in strict compliance with military regulations the sentry demanded in Russian and German that the stranger stop. When the latter failed to comply and tried to flee the sentry fired a warning shot into the air. Since the intruder did not stop even after this, the sentry had to use his weapon. He fired and killed the intruder.

It was established that the intruder was Major A. Nicholson of the American military liason mission who together with Staff Sergeant J. Schatz had driven in a motor vehicle onto the territory of a military facility despite the existence of clearly visible warning signs in Russian and German. At the time when Nicholson was conducting the espionage operation Schatz remained in their vehicle and covered Nicholson's actions. He was apprehended by Soviet servicemen.

So the above-mentioned intelligence actions of the American servicemen are a flagrant violation of the April 3, 1947 agreement on military liaison missions, on the basis of which the United States mission in Potsdam functions. Article 10 of the agreement forbids the movement of members of missions "in places where military units are stationed".

American servicemen have committed such unlawful actions before as well.

Thus, when an attempt was made in August 1982 to apprehend staff members of the United States mission, who were engaged in military reconnaissance in a restricted zone in the area of the Rorbek settlement, Potsdam District, they deliberately ran down a Soviet Army officer, inflicting grievous bodily harm to him.

The Soviet side has repeatedly drawn the attention of official United States representatives to the provocative and dangerous nature of such actions. The tragic outcome of what happened on March 24 is regrettable but the entire responsibility for it lies fully on the American side which is now circulating a deliberately false version of what happened.

In connection with the said intelligence action by staff members of the American liaison mission the USSR Embassy in Washington, acting in accordance with instructions, lodged a strong protest with the United States Department of State demanded that the American side take the necessary measures to ensure strict fulfilment of the 1947 agreement on military liason missions.

PROSPECTS FOR INCREASED USSR-U.S. TRADE WEIGHED

PM251436 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 23 Mar 85 Morning Edition p 4

[N. Gladkov article: "USSR-U.S.: Trade Ties: What Lies Ahead?"]

[Text] Two months ago in January Soviet-U.S. consultations within the framework of a working group of trade experts were held in Moscow after a long interval. During these consultations the sides advocated holding a session of the Soviet-U.S. Trade Commission, which last met in 1978.

Thus, many years after the U.S. side ended official contacts with the Soviet side on trade questions, there seems to be movement toward their revival. The resumption of official contacts on trade and economic questions evidently reflects the desire of certain U.S. circles, above all business circles, to correct the abnormal situation in the sphere of bilateral trade and extricate trade from the impasse.

Trade is a natural, recognized form of contact between states. The Soviet Union maintains trading relations with dozens of countries; however, that can in no way be said of USSR-U.S. trade. The periods of a certain expansion of it have given way to a sharp fall.

Just what hampers normal trade between our countries? The answer to that question is obvious -- the policy deliberately pursued by the U.S. Administration aimed at creating artificial obstacles to the development of business ties with the USSR. It must be admitted that in this area the administration has really "made an effort." Trade was subordinated to achieving foreign policy and military-strategic goals, and methods of "economic warfare" became a firm part of the arsenal of means of "global confrontation" with the Soviet Union.

As for the USSR, it consistently advocates the development of trade will all countries on the basis of equality, mutual advantage, and noninterference in each other's internal affairs and without any discrimination. We are convinced that this approach to trade is also important from the viewpoint of organizing mutual understanding and strengthening trust.

As was emphasized at the experts' consultations, real economic preconditions exist for expanding USSR-U.S. trade. The meeting also noted promising spheres for cooperation such as the agro-industrial complex, the chemical and petrochemical industries, light industry, and so forth.

The implementation of this potential is hindered by the many problems that have accumulated, not through the fault of the Soviet Union, in trade relations between our countries.

Is the January meeting of experts the start of work to clear the obstacles to a normalization of trade between the USSR and the United States? The future course of events depends on how realistically the U.S. side views trade and economic ties with the Soviet Union. The reputation of U.S. firms as reliable business partners, which has suffered through the fault of the administration, needs to be strengthened.

The forthcoming session of the Soviet-U.S. Trade Commission will show how serious the U.S. side's intentions of seeking ways of organizing mutually advantageous trade and economic relations are.

REAGAN, SHULTZ DEFINE U.S. GOALS IN NICARAGUA

Reagan: Overthrow Sandinists

LD252332 Moscow TASS in English 2227 GMT 25 Mar 85

[Text] Washington March 25 TASS -- President Reagan confirmed today that the ultimate goal of the policy of its administration with regard to Nicaragua is the overthrow of the lawful Sandinist government.

Speaking in the White House, President Reagan declared for the granting of all-out aid to those whom he cynically described as "fighters for freedom" -- terroristic bands of former Somoza men whom the United States is using in the undeclared war against Nicaragua.

The head of the U.S. Administration made a recourse to demagogic talk about the need to "restore democracy", thus trying to conceal the true meaning of the administration's policy with regard to revolutionary Nicaragua, even though at one of his recent press conferences the President admitted that the United States is striving to remove the present structure of government in Nicaragua.

Shultz: Pluralist Government

LD222212 Moscow TASS in English 1830 GMT 22 Mar 85

[Text] Moscow March 22 TASS -- TASS commentator Sergey Kudryavskiy writes:

Addressing the House of Representatives of the U.S. Congress on Thursday on the foreign aid program, U.S. Secretary of State George Shultz again flagrantly intervened in the internal affairs of Nicaragua by saying that the United States would seek a modification of Nicaragua's conduct so that there should be installed a pluralist government in the country and that there should be the freedoms of religious worship and the press.

The Reagan administration cannot reconcile itself to the emergence in Central America of a sovereign state which is pursuing domestic and foreign policy that are independent of the USA. Washington is trying under various far-fetched pretexts to strangle the Sandinista revolution and to hold back the processes of social and economic change taking place in the country.

In the early days an undeclared war against Nicaragua was being waged under the false pretext that the country was supplying Salvadoran guerrillas with weapons. Now this pretext has been forgotten because no evidence of arms supplies to Salvadoran guerrillas has ever been produced. The fact that it was just a falsehood is illustrated, in particular, by THE NEW YORK TIMES, which quotes a State Department official as saying that interception of weapons has never been the purpose behind aid to Nicaraguan contras.

Now another falsehood has been produced: Nicaragua is accused to suppressing democracy and the freedoms of religious worship and the press. Washington is overlooking the fact, however, that the Sandinista leadership was elected by the majority of the Nicaraguan people in a general election, that different political parties are represented in the National Assembly (parliament), that no believers are being persecuted, that there exists an opposition press in the country and that the right-wing newspaper PRENSA is even financed by U.S. semi-private organisations. These are realities but Washington closes its eyes to them. The Reagan administration, grossly misrepresenting facts relevant to Nicaragua, is trying by all means to overthrow the Sandinista government.

Practical steps are taken in this direction virtually every day. The Mexican newspaper EXCELSIOR has reported that the Honduras-based counterrevolutionary grouping calling itself "Nicaraguan Democratic Forces," backed by the USA, has launched a campaign to recruit mercenaries in five countries of the American continent to fight in Nicaragua.

The Pentagon for its part has announced that the Armed Forces of the USA and Honduras will conduct in April joint air force, land and naval exercises, "Universal Track-85," on the Honduran northern coast. Those exercises are directed primarily against Nicaragua and will become a sort of prelude to open U.S. armed intervention in that country.

OPPOSITION TO U.S. C. AMERICAN POLICY REPORTED

LD250033 Moscow TASS in English 2039 GMT 24 Mar 85

[Text] Managua March 24 TASS -- The Reagan administration does not cease attempts at isolating Nicaragua and at strangling it in the grip of a financial and economic blockade, William Hooper, the Republic's minister of finance, has stated. Protectionist measures with regard to Nicaraguan exports, pressure on international monetary centres with a view to closing channels for receiving loans and credits -- such are the links of the U.S. criminal plans to destabilise the Nicaraguan economy, he stressed.

William Hooper described as a provocative and unlawful action the pressure by U.S. Secretary of State George Shultz on the leadership of the Interamerican Deveopment Development Bank and, in particular, the letter in which Shultz demanded that the granting of a loan to Nicaragua for the development of agriculture be cancelled. Way back in 1981, the minister pointed out, the U.S. Government denied credits to Nicaragua for the purchase of grain. Then the White House deprived the Republic of a quota for the delivery of sugar to the USA. Since 1982 the Nicaraguans have been denied credits by Washington-controlled banks.

The Reagan administration, the minister emphasised, bars Nicaraguan exports from the U.S. market. In 1980 the Republic delivered 33 per cent of its commodities to the United States whereas now -- less than five per cent, which makes it look for new markets for the sale of coffee, sugar, meat and other farm products. Washington's continuing undeclared war is having a negative effect on the financial and economic position of the country. As a result of the war, the Republic lost more than 1,500 million dollars last year alone, William Hooper said.

This year, he pointed out, holds out a promise to be an extremely difficult one, he pointed out [sentence as received]. Considerable funds are being deflected for the needs of defence, and production is dropping. The revolutionary government has started to take financial and economic measures to stabilise the economy, to reduce the deficit of the balance of payments and to broaden the output of export-oriented products. Its attention remains focused on improving the socio-economic position of the masses of people. Despite an acute shortage of funds, the 1985 plan envisages a continuous rise in the working people's wages and provision with food.

New York March 24 TASS -- The U.S. public is stepping up a campaign of protest against the U.S. interference in Central America and against the Reagan administration's support for sanguinary dictatorships. A week of action in support of the struggle of the Central American peoples has been held in the city of El Paso (Texas). It ended with a protest march the participants in which chanted "Stop interference in Nicaragua's affairs!" and "Hands off Central America!" A series of similar activities are now taking place in other cities and states of America.

Mexico City March 24 TASS -- Left-wing political parties of Mexico as well as the country's committees and organisations for solidarity with the embattled peoples of the region have demanded that the Reagan administration withdraw U.S. "advisers" and wind up U.S. military bases in Central America. They pointed out in a joint statement that Washington's aggressive actions against Nicaragua are of criminal character and pursue the aim of overthrowing the legitimate government in that country. Despite the constant manifestation of the will for peace and dialogue on the part of the Nicaraguan leadership, the document points out, the White House is stepping military, political and economic aggression against the Republic.

The statement demands that the U.S. Government recognise the right of the Central American peoples to self-determination and give an opportunity to Nicaragua to live in peace and friendship with the other peoples of the region.

Bogota March 24 TASS -- A colloquium on the subject "For Non-Interference and Peace in Central America" has been held here within the framework of the week of solidarity with revolutionary Nicaragua and the embattled people of El Salvador.

Delivering a report, Alfredo Vazquez Carrizosa, former Colombian minister of foreign affairs, has exposed the aggressive essence of the U.S. policy in the Central American region. The principal aim of that policy, he emphasised, is to establish full domination of U.S. imperialism.

Senator Urrea said that talks are the only way to solve the conflict in Central America. He also pointed out the inadmissibility of a U.S. direct armed interference in the region.

DELEGATION FROM DPRK'S NODONG SINMUN VISITS

SK250722 Moscow International Service in Korean 1130 GMT 21 Mar 85

[Text] Dear listeners: Some time ago, a delegation of reporters of NODONG SINMUN, an organ of the Workers Party of Korea Central Committee, came to the Soviet Union and toured many places. The Korean comrades collected materials to write a book about the life of the Soviet people, their labor successes in the construction of an advanced socialist society, and the policies of the CPSU and the Soviet Government. The DPRK reporters toured almost half of the vast continent of our country. Besides Moscow and Leningrad, they visited many Soviet cities such as Liga, Khabarovsk, Leninsk, (Chomeni), Minsk, Kiev, and Alma-Ata.

Prior to departing for home, a reporter for this station met Comrade (Kim Hyong-chun), director of the Department of Revolutionary Indoctrination of NODONG SINMUN and head of the reporters' delegation, and asked him to comment on his impression of their visit to the Soviet Union. He said:

[Begin recording] Our NODONG SINMUN reporters' delegation visited the Soviet Union for the purpose of contributing to strengthening the friendship between Korea and the Soviet Union. In order to contribute, especially, to solidifying the success of the visit to the Soviet Union in May last year by the great leader of our people Comrade Kim Il-song, we visited the Soviet Union and toured many places.

We were deeply impressed during our visit to the Soviet Union. I cannot say everything I want to, but I will tell you some of it. First of all, we were deeply impressed by seeing the Soviet workers, as we were collecting materials in various places of the Soviet Union, devotedly struggling to carry out the decision of the 26th CPSU Congress. In many plants we visited, we met many workers who had already carried out the tasks of the 11th 5-Year Plan.

We were most impressed when we visited the Minsk tractor plant. The workers of this plant were excellently carrying out the targets assigned to them, as well as the tasks of the 11th 5-Year Plan. They were prepared in terms of technology to produce new-model tractors so that they can begin assembly line production.

We visited the No 9 Bread Plant in Kiev. During our visit there, we were impressed by seeing how the working class of this plant excellently carryied out the tasks put forward by the CPSU. In particular, they were making great efforts to carry out the food program of the country, trying to save even a gram of wheat flour, and their efforts were producing fruitful results by introducing new scientific and technological success.

This is a significant year marking the 50th anniversary of the Stakhanovite movement. We could feel that the Stakhanovite movement has vitality even today and has great significance. When we visited a coal mine in (Dorisk), we saw that every miner there was an innovator and a hero. In the old days, only Stakhanov could effect such exploits and innovations, but today all miners in all work teams, all pits, and all coal mines are working like such innovators. We could see the continuous procession of the innovators like Stakhanov being brought up in large numbers from one generation to the next. Through this we could see that the Soviet people's warm love for their socialist fatherland and their endless devotion to labor guarantee all that the Soviet Union has today.

In a nutshell, while touring many plants, we saw that various tasks set forth at the 26th CPSU Congress are being excellently implemented. We were also deeply impressed by the efforts in the USSR to make Soviet youth into revolutionary fighters and we saw that these efforts are producing outstanding success.

We visited Ulyanovsk city, the native city of the great Lenin. In the city, we toured the Lenin Museum. We witnessed citizens of all strata, ranging from old people to youths to kindergarteners, visiting this museum. At the museum, we appreciated all the displayed facilities and furniture that Lenin himself used.

Through our tour of this museum, we were able to see that the CPSU has concentrated great efforts on educating young generations of the Soviet Union and that the future of the Soviet Union is very promising.

While touring many places in the Soviet Union, we were also able to witness that the Soviet people's feelings of friendship toward our Korean people are very deep, firm, warm, and invariable.

Everywhere we visited, Soviet comrades warmly received us and unanimously asked us to visit again next summer. We got that impression that the Korean-Soviet friendship will come into fuller bloom in the summer.

We will inform our people of this. In conclusion, we would like to express our deep thanks to the CPSU Central Committee and all Soviet comrades for the warm hospitality and sincere assistance accorded to us during our tour of the Soviet Union. [end recording]

INDIAN DEFENSE MINISTER TO VISIT 'LATER THIS MONTH'

LD252202 Moscow TASS in English 2144 GMT 25 Mar 85

[Text] Moscow March 26 TASS -- Defense Minister P. V. Narasimha Rao of the Republic of India will pay an official friendly visit to the USSR at the invitation of the Soviet Government later this month.

PRAVDA ARTICLE ON ANTI-DRA 'IDEOLOGICAL SABATOGE'

LD260626 Moscow TASS International Service in Russian 2216 GMT 24 Mar 85

[Text] Moscow, 25 Mar (TASS) -- The enemies of Afghanistan began carrying out ideological sabotage immediately after the victory of the 1978 revolution, making use of the profoundly religious nature and almost universal illiteracy of the population, Vladimir Snegirev writes in PRAVDA in an article titled "The Salvoes of Slander."

The salvoes of disinformation and slander are aimed first and foremost at the masses of peasantry, nomads, and urban poor who make up the majority of the country's population. The strategists of psychological warfare know full well that the outcome of the struggle for the destiny of the revolution depends largely on whose side the broad popular masses are on. That is why efforts are made day and night to poison the Afghans with the venom of distrust, to alienate people from the democratic power, and to sow terror and uncertainty in their hearts.

The KABUL NEW TIMES has called the psychological warfare against Afghanistan "one of the largest-scale operations by the CIA in recent years." It is being waged by the mass media empire which is subject to the CIA; it is systematic in nature and costs the United States millions of dollars.

More than 50 foreign radio stations are broadcasting in the languages of the Afghan peoples. The general volume of their broadcasting has increased manyfold in the last 5 years and at present it represents about 200 hours a week. Radio Free Kabul, which has about 11 radio transmitters along the Afghan-Pakistani frontiers at its disposal, poisons the radio waves from Pakistani territory. Voice of America broadcasts 6 and 1/2 hours daily in Dari and Pashto, and furthermore, according to the modernization plan already being implemented, this radio station, as Charles Wick, director of the USIA, said recently, "intends to bring its information more effectively" to listeners in Afghanistan.

Construction has begun in Pakistan of powerful transmitters for the subversive Freedom and Free Europe radio stations. They will broadcast to Afghanistan in the native languages.

Mountains of subversive material can be seen alongside the heaps of weapons and ammunition in the secret stores seized by the Republic's Armed Forces. Of late, a flow of "literature" of a special kind has gushed from behind the cordon -- manuals and textbooks like the infamous CIA handbook on waging psychological war for Nicaraguan bandits. The authors of these little books do not even try to hide their contents: They teach how to blow up, burn down, mine, poison, and organize sabotage more skillfully.

To fool people, having launched avalanches of slander upon them, to make the Afghans blind executors of the plans of reactionary forces -- this is what those who are waging psychological war against Afghanistan are striving for, V. Snegirev states.

FURTHER ON MSZMP CONGRESS PROCEEDINGS

Romanov Speech

LD261038 Moscow TASS in English 1015 GMT 26 Mar 85

[Text] Budapest March 26 TASS -- "For four decades already the Hungarian people in close unity with the peoples of the Soviet Union and other fraternal countries has been building a new world. Everything that has been achieved during these years is a convincing illustration of the correctness of the road which we have chosen and a tangible proof of the indisputable advantages and potentialities of the socialist system," Grigoriy Romanov, member of the Political Bureau of the Central Committee of the Communist Party of the Soviet Union (CPSU), secretary of the CPSU Central Committee, said at the 13th Congress of the Hungarian Socialist Workers' Party (HSWP) today.

"In the course of the period", the head of the delegation of the CPSU said, "we have come to realize better how important it is to have reliable friends and people holding the same views, and what an invaluable achievement the socialist community has become. This community is of special kind. In it, there is no room for relations of domination or subordination, imposition of one's will upon others, or mechanical standardization. Its unity is based on the common Marxist-Leninist ideals and basic interests, on devotion to the principles of class solidarity, on thoroughly taking mutual interests into account, and on readiness to come to the aid of one another."

"From the rostrum of your congress, a lot of good has been said about Soviet-Hungarian relations and about friendship between our peoples", Grigoriy Romanov went on to say. "We fully share what has been said. Years-long practice and life itself make it possible to state with satisfaction that these relations not only steadily follow an upward trend but also yield increasingly tangible results in all fields: in politics, the economy, science and culture".

"We, of course, are in favour of developing businesslike contacts with capitalist countries on a mutually beneficial basis along with strengthening socialist economic integration. However, we build these contacts so as not to allow the imperialist forces to use economic levers as means of political pressure and interference in the affairs of sovereign socialist states".

"Speaking of these problems we cannot fail, of course, to take into account the entire international situation today. Its present deterioration is a direct result of the increased activity of the aggressive circles to imperialism, especially American imperialism, which would like to undermine by any means the unity of our socialist community, to hold back the irreversible historical process of social development, national and social emancipation of the peoples."

"It seems especially appropriate today, on the eve of the 40th anniversary of the victory over Hitler fascism, to recall the lessons of history", Grigoriy Romanov said. "These lessons are a stern warning to all those who are hatching plans for world supremacy. Any attempts to talk to us from positions of strength, from positions of threats are doomed to failure. The socialist states have everything necessary to meet the challenge, to ensure the security of our countries and peoples. The Warsaw Treaty, whose thirtieth anniversary we shall soon observe, is their reliable shield."

"The Soviet Union, Hungary, our friends and allies are convinced," Grigoriy Romanov stressed, "that the historical dispute between different social systems on a world scale, Europe included, can and must be settled by peaceful means only. They firmly intend to consistently uphold this principle, to work for the relaxation of international tension and to pursue as before a line for further ensuring their unity and cohesion and coordination of their foreign policy moves.

"The attention of the world community is riveted today to the new Soviet-American talks which began recently to discuss nuclear and space armaments. The Soviet Union came to Geneva with constructive and realistic intentions, with the desire to act in accordance with the agreement reached concerning the subject and objectives of the talks. We expect a similar approach from the American side, too."

"It is still too early, of course, to make now any conclusions, even preliminary ones. As to the Soviet Union we shall not be found wanting," the leader of the CPSU delegation said.

"We shall always requite good will with good will and confidence with confidence. Such is our position on the way to solving the most cardinal problem of the time, that of averting the nuclear threat hanging over mankind. And we shall do everything possible to ensure a peaceful life for people on this planet".

Kadar Speech

LD252008 Moscow TASS in English 1949 GMT 25 Mar 85

["Janos Kadar -- Speech at 13th HSWP Congress" -- TASS headline]

[Text] Budapest March 25 TASS -- "The Hungarian people welcomes the Soviet-U.S. negotiations that began at Geneva on the entire complex of nuclear and space weapons. It stands for carrying on with the process begun by the Helsinki conference", said Janos Kadar, first secretary of the Central Committee of the Hungarian Socialist Workers' Party (HSWP). He made a speech at the 13th HSWP Congress that opened in Budapest today.

The Warsaw Treaty member-states, the Hungarian leader said, are making consistent efforts to strengthen their defense capabilities. The Warsaw Treaty is a reliable guarantor of security, peaceful and constructive work of the Hungarian people. As is known, our countries put forward a constructive proposal for concluding a treaty on the mutual non-use of military force and maintaining relations of peace between the Warsaw Treaty and NATO countries. Unfortunately there has been no reply to that proposal to date. In such circumstances the Hungarian People's Republic firmly stands in favor of extending the term of operation of the Warsaw Treaty.

Not so long ago, Janos Kadar went on to say, a meeting of heads of party and state delegations of the Warsaw Treaty member-states was held in Moscow. The meeting expressed common determination to perfect in every way all-round political interaction, economic, ideological and other forms of cooperation, the desire to work consistently and in a constructive spirit for lessening tensions in the world, eliminating the threat of nuclear war, adopting effective measures in the field of disarmament, above all nuclear disarmament, and preventing militarization of outer space. They expressed the unanimous opinion to extend the term of operation of the Warsaw Treaty.

Soon the people of the world will observe the 40th anniversary of victory over Hitler fascism and Japanese militarism. That victory became a turning point in the history of the entire human race. The Yalta and Potsdam conferences played a big role in the utter defeat of fascism and subsequent political development in Europe.

We will carry on with our peaceful policy and devote much attention to promoting further cooperation with the fraternal communist parties and other progressive forces, Janos Kadar stressed.

The Hungarian people is getting ready to celebrate the 40th anniversary of the liberation of its country from Nazi invaders. On April 4, 1945 the Soviet Army completely liberated our land from Nazi occupation troops. Thus, Hungary regained its sovereignty and independence. 40 years ago the Hungarian people became the master of its country and embarked on the construction of a new socialist motherland. We treasure the memory of the heroic Soviet soldiers who sacrificed their lives for the freedom of our country. The time that has elapsed demonstrates that the Hungarian people has taken advantage of the possibility given to it, consolidated its power, put an end to oppression and built a country enjoying prestige in the international scene, Hungarian leader emphasised.

SED OFFICIALS STUDY SOVIET VOCATIONAL TRAINING

PM251446 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 24 Mar 85 First Edition p 4

[TASS report: "Interparty Contacts"]

[Text] In accordance with the plan for interparty ties between the CPSU and the SED, a delegation of SED party officials headed by C.-H. Janson, chief of the SED Central Committee Socialist Economic Management Section, was in the Soviet Union 18-22 March and acquainted itself with the CPSU's experience in the leadership of the vocational and technical education system.

The German comrades had conversations at the CPSU Central Committee Science and Education Establishments Section, the Georgian Communist Party Central Committee, the USSR State Committee for Vocational and Technical Education, and the Komsomol Central Committee, and visited a number of enterprises and vocational and technical schools.

CPSU DELEGATION VISITS CSSR 18-23 MAR

PM251448 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 24 Mar 85 First Edition p 4

[TASS report: "Exchange of Experience"]

[Text] In accordance with the plan for interparty ties between the CPSU and CPCZ, a delegation of CPSU party workers headed by R.E. Ristlaan, secretary of the Estonian Communist Party Central Committee, was in the CSSR 18-23 March to study the CPCZ's experience in ideological work.

The delegation was received by J. Fojtik, candidate member of the Presidium and secretary of the CPCZ Central Committee.

TOLKUNOV RECEIVES BUNDESRAT PRESIDENT SPAETH

PM261101 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 6 Mar 85 Morning Edition p 5

[TASS Report:"Meeting at USSR Supreme Soviet"]

[Text] A meeting took place 25 March between Comrade Tolkunov, chairman of the Soviet of the Union of the USSR Supreme Soviet, and Spaeth, president of the FRG Bundesrat. During the conversation, the guest was briefed on the progress of the Soviet-U.S. negotiations on nuclear and space weapons that are under way in Geneva. The Soviet Union's firm desire to attain mutually acceptable agreements on preventing the militarization of space and making a substantial reduction in strategic weapons and also medium-range weapons in Europe, was reiterated. It was noted that U.S. plans to wage "star wars" and the continuation of scientific developments of new types of weapons could be a serious obstacle to the successful completion of the talks. The position of the USSR and the other Warsaw Pact countries is the same -- talks must be conducted on an honest and equal basis, without granting advantages to either side.

Spaeth explained the FRG's position on a number of international problems and declared his country's desire to contribute to the process of relaxation of tension and strengthening international security.

Both sides pointed out the good development of mutually beneficial trade and economic ties, and expressed the hope of both sides for improvement of relations in the political sphere.

Taking part in the conversation were Comrade Zagladin, secretary of the Foreign Affairs Commission of the USSR Supreme Soviet's Soviet of the Union and first deputy head of the CPSU Central Committee's International Department; Major General Lebedev, deputy head of USSR Armed Forces General Staff Directorate; and other officials; and also Kastel, FRG ambassador in the USSR.

Also today, Spaeth laid a wreath at the Tomb of the Unknown Soldier by the Kremlin Wall.

The day before, the guest had visited Vladimir. At the oblispolkom, he was told of Vladimir Oblast's industrial and social development. He visited the Suzdal Kremlin and the Museum of Creation of the Peoples of the RSFSR.

MEDIA COMMENT ON ESCALATION OF IRAN-IRAQ WAR

IZVESTIYA Article

PM251648 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 23 Mar 85 Morning Edition p 4

[V. Shevchenko article under the rubric "Reader's Query": "Why the Fires of War Are Blazing" -- first paragraph is reader's letter]

[Text] There has been a new outbreak of hostilities on the Iran-Iraq front. What are the causes of this continuing armed conflict? A. Dubrovskiy. Aktyubinsk

Alarming reports are reaching us from the Iran-Iraq border. Iranian troops have attempted to cross the Tigris River on the southern swampy section of the front and block the strategic Basra-Baghdad highway; Iraqi subunits are mounting stubborn resistance. Peaceful cities and both states' capitals are the targets for military attacks.

The detonator for the explosion that led to the prolonged and bloody Iran-Iraq war was planted by the British colonizers who, pursuing their "divide and rule" policy, defined an Iran-Iraq border which suited neither side and constantly gave rise to conflicts. In particular, this concerned the Shatt al-'Arab waterway, which flows into the Persian Gulf and is of great economic importance for both countries, armed border clashes became more frequent in 1979 after the ouster of the Shah's regime in Iran. That was no accident.

The antishah, anti-imperialist revolution staged in Iran in 1978 severely shook U.S. positions in the Near and Middle East and threatened U.S. interests. War flared in fall 1980. The "border detonator" worked at the moment international reaction needed it. It was brought into play by those forces that wanted to defuse the anti-imperialist struggle in the region.

The Iran-Iraq conflict is part of the overall U.S. strategic line aimed at stepping up its military presence in this oil-rich part of the world. Not allowing the flames of war to die down, the NATO countries are delivering arms to the opposing sides, thus encouraging them to mount new hostilities. The conflict is overshadowing the situation in the Persian Gulf, involving the countries of the region in an arms race, and diverting them from the struggle against Israeli aggression. All this plays into the hands of the forces of imperialism and Zionism.

The war, which is now into its 5th year, and hostile propaganda have sown poisonous seeds of distrust between the two countries' peoples. The attempts made by various international organizations to settle the Iran-Iraq conflict peacefully have not yet produced positive results. It should be noted that Iraq has recently been showing heightened interest in ending hostilities. The region's press is noting that it is desirable for the Iranian side to assess the prevailing situation more realistically. The entire course of the war shows that it is impossible to achieve any advantages for either side by force of arms.

The Soviet Union, adhering to a policy of noninterference in the armed conflict between the two countries, has advocated a rapid end to it from the very start of the war and noted that it undermines both countries' national interests and threatens international security.

KRASNAYA ZVEZDA 'Review'

PM261025 Moscow KRASNAYA ZVEZDA in Russian 24 Mar 85 Second Edition p 3

["Military-Political Review" by international observer V. Pustov: "Senseless and Dangerous Conflict"]

[Text] In the Iraq-Iran conflict which erupted back in September 1980, periods of relative calm alternate with the activation of hostilities. This month, a sharp escalation has been observed in the fighting, and not only in the positions held by troops. In violation of the agreement concluded in June last year banning military operations against civilian targets, the warring sides have begun to deliver bomb, missile, and artillery strikes against cities, including their capitals -- Baghdad and Tehran. The victims of these attacks are mainly civilians. According to the estimates of a number of foreign observers, the total number of dead alone in Iran and Iraq is close to 0.5 million.

How have events developed? In the middle of March, Iranian troops consisting of eight divisions launched an offensive in the region "east of the Tigris," or to be more precise in the Hawiza marshes south of the city of Al-'Amarah. In a number of places they have succeeded in reaching the Tigris River and in one place have even forded it. As during the offensive operations in previous years, the main aim of the present operation has been to cut off the highway linking Basra and Baghdad and to separate the southeast region of Iraq from the country's central regions.

However, Iraqi troops moved to the counteroffensive almost immediately. The fighting, regarded as the fiercest and bloodiest of the war, lasted a week.

Baghdad and Tehran have published diametrically opposite military reports. Thus, Tehran radio had announced that Iranian troops, having deflected all their adversary's counterattacks, maintain control over the area of 500 square km they have seized and that they have killed over 12,000 Iraqi soldiers and captured over 3,000. The Iraqi command, however, has stated that the Iranians have been driven back to their initial positions with heavy losses -- 27,000 dead.

Foreign observers are inclined to give greater credence to the reports from Baghdad. The fighting, a report from the French Antenne 2 television company notes, attests that the Iranian Armed Forces were obviously unprepared for the "decisive offensive" undertaken by Tehran.

The setbacks for the Iranian troops can be explained by a number of reasons. Foreign observers are dwelling on them in detail. In particular they have noted that the marshy terrain made it difficult for the attacking side to bring tanks and heavy artillery into battle. The Iranian troops thus lost their fire support. This made it easier for the Iraqi troops, which had created a firm defense in advance, to resolve the tasks of repelling the enemy offensive.

The ferocious militarist campaign which is being mounted in Iran and whose ideological basis consists of Muslim Shi'ite extremism has failed to achieve its aim. Here is how the Tehran correspondent of the U.S. NBC television company describes the situation in Iran: "Everywhere suicide detachments are being formed along the lines of the Japanese kamikaze. After many hours of prayers and preaching, young men blinded by religious fanaticism volunteer in their masses for the front...In schools and educational establishments young people are educated in a spirit of obedience to the Koran and are persuaded that the soul of anyone who dies on the battlefield goes straight to paradise."

It is no accident that observers note that young men and adolescents make up a large proportion of those who have died in the fighting. It has been reaffirmed that religious fanaticism cannot replace military training and much else needed in war.

Iraq's obvious superiority in the air, particularly in the region of the fighting, was also of importance. Whereas in January Iraqi aircraft and helicopters as a rule made a little over 100 operational flights a day, in February the figure was around 200, while during the fiercest fighting in March this number was close to 1,000. At the same time Iraqi fighter bombers have resumed and activated the blockade of Khark Island in the Persian Gulf where important bulk oil installations are situated.

Of course, Iranian aircraft did not stand idle. But their activeness was manifested not so much in providing support for troops on the battlefields as in attacks on enemy cities and industrial centers. According to foreign estimates, Iranian military aircraft are obviously inferior to Iraqi military aircraft in terms of numbers and combat qualities. Incidentally, foreign observers note that Western intelligence organs have made substantial blunders in assessing the numerical strength of the Iranian aircraft contingent. Some time ago they claimed that as a result of losses incurred in the fighting and the acute shortage of spare parts the Iranian Air Force, which before the war had 450, mainly U.S. aircraft, now has fewer than 60 combat-ready aircraft remaining. This estimate is now being increased. It is believed that Iran may have approximately 110-120 combat aircraft, although the majority are obsolete.

Ultimately, the Western press notes, the March fighting in the Hawiza marshes region, like many previous battles, has shown that approximate parity of forces exists between Iran and Iraq. The large numerical strength of the Iranian Army (nearly 1 million men are in arms and half of them are volunteer militiamen) is compensated by the considerably larger Iraqi Air Force (according to foreign press reports, approximately 700 aircraft and helicopters). Foreign military specialists conclude virtually unanimously that neither of the warring sides can win victory.

Many countries and international organizations are making efforts to end the conflict between Iran and Iraq. Irrefutable facts attest, however, that the most reactionary forces of imperialism, headed by the United States, adopt a different position. They also verbally advocate ending the conflict, but in fact... Their secret perfidious designs were cynically blurted out recently by a spokesman for a U.S. oil company. "The danger of the war," he admitted, "is that it may end." A little over 4 years after the start of the Iran-Iraq war, the French newspaper LE MONDE notes, circles accustomed to growing rich on the peoples' blood "are dreaming of this situation lasting as long as possible."

Washington is not merely dreaming. U.S. interest in preserving a seat of international tension in the Persian Gulf zone and continuing the bloodshed is manifested in specific militarist actions. What kind of actions are these that aggravate the situation still more dangerously both in this region and around it?

To this day the United States keeps a large-scale squadron, including one or two aircraft carriers, in the Arabian Sea and Persian Gulf. For a long time Pentagon spokesmen attempted to justify the squadron's presence a long way from the United States by the "threat" allegedly looming over navigation in the Persian Gulf and Indian Ocean as a result of Iran's possible blockading of the Strait of Hormuz. There has not been and is not any blockade, yet the U.S. armada remains in place, jeopardizing the security of other countries of the region.

The specially created U.S. "Central Command" (Centcom) and the interventionist Rapid Deployment Force put at its disposal and intended for operations in the Near East and Persian Gulf zone are also an important component of the transatlantic invasion forces. THE WASHINGTON POST has reported measures to raise the Rapid Deployment Force's combat potential and mobility.

A ramified system of bases has been created and is being improved for the actions of the Rapid Deployment Force and U.S. Air Force groupings. This system includes approximately 30 military bases -- in Oman, Saudi Arabia, Bahrain, Somalia, Kenya, and other countries of the region. The Island of Diego Garcia has been turned into a very large U.S. naval and air base, which is particularly perturbing the peoples and governments of the Indian Ocean countries. According to Western press reports, the Pentagon is planning to deploy missiles with nuclear charges there.

The Pentagon, operating from the Mediterranean, is raising its militarist fist over the Persian Gulf zone. The hasty transfer this month of the nuclear-powered aircraft carrier the Dwight D. Eisenhower and other ships of the 6th Fleet to the eastern Mediterranean was connected not only with the events in Lebanon. It is indicative that the redeployment of the U.S. ships was accompanied by threats against Iran. On the phony pretext of the struggle against the "terrorists" allegedly in Iran, the Pentagon has elaborated a "scenario of retaliatory actions" and "preventive strikes." An ABC television broadcast has noted that a close study is being undertaken of the possibility of a "lightning" air attack on Iran, for which U.S. military experts have already selected a target -- deep inside Iranian territory. Such actions are one more graphic piece of evidence of the terrorism promoted in the United States to the rank of state policy.

In building up and improving its own forces of armed intervention, Washington has at the same time not abandoned its long-standing plan to turn the Arab monarchies of the Persian Gulf into its stooges. To this end, it has mounted a propaganda campaign to persuade Saudi Arabia and its neighbors, also rich in oil, that the threat to their regimes comes from Iran and the Shi'ite Muslim supporters of Ayatollah Khomeyni who live in those countries. Washington understands very well that it will be considerably easier to implement what is, frankly, a provocative plan, if it maintains and fuels still further the tension around the Iran-Iraq conflict. This is, in fact, what is being done with the use of overtly unseemly ways and means.

On the hypocritical pretext of concern for the Arab monarchies' "security," Washington is foisting expensive, crushing military programs on them. The deal on deliveries of AWACS aircraft to Saudi Arabia, advantageous to the United States in every respect, can serve as an example. First, it ensures profits for the U.S. military-industrial firms running into billions and ensures the Pentagon strategists valuable intelligence gathered by these aircraft which, under the deal's terms, are serviced by U.S. crews. Second, it ensures a virtually constant U.S. military presence on the Arabian Peninsula. As a Pentagon document that has been made public notes with satisfaction, "the structure of the AWACS system is so complex that U.S. personnel will be needed permanently to maintain its main components in working order." Finally, this deal, like the Americans' overtly inflammatory policy as a whole, cannot fail to aggravate relations among the countries of the region. In fact, as we can see, it is a case not of the defense of the Arab countries' security but of attempts to draw them into Washington's militarist adventures.

The Iran-Iraq armed conflict is called, with complete justification, pointless, futile, illogical, and advantageous only to the enemies of these two countries' peoples, above all to U.S. imperialism and its Israeli ally. The Soviet Union invariably advocates the speediest cessation of this bloodshed fraught with pernicious consequences, and not only to the warring sides.

BURUNDIAN FOREIGN MINISTER STOPS OVER IN MOSCOW

PM261127 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 26 Mar 85 Morning Edition p 5

[TASS report: "Passing Through Moscow"]

[Text] L. Nzeyimana, Burundian minister of foreign relations and cooperation, has stopped over in Moscow en route to the DPRK and Japan.

A talk took place 21 March between L. Nzeyimana and USSR Deputy Foreign Minister L.F. Ilichyev, during which there was an exchange of opinions on questions of Soviet-Burundian relations and some topical international problems including those relating to the situation in Africa. The talk, in which V.M. Vasov, member of the USSR Foreign Ministry Collegium, and P. Ndikamana, Burundian ambassador to the USSR, also took part, were held in an atmosphere of friendship and mutual understanding.

L. Nzeyimana also had meetings at the State Committee for Foreign Economic Relations, the USSR Ministry of Higher and Secondary Specialized Education, the Ministry of Foreign Trade, the USSR Committee for Physical Culture and Sports, and the Union of Soviet Societies for Friendship and Cultural Relations With Foreign Countries, during which there was a discussion of questions of mutual interest.

On 24 March L. Nzeyimana left Moscow.

ETHIOPIAN MINISTER LAUDS SOVIET SUPPORT, AID

PM260953 Moscow SOTSIALISTICHESKAYA INDUSTRIYA in Russian 24 Mar 85 p 3

[Unnamed TASS correspondent dispatch: "A True Friend of Ethiopia"]

[Text] Addis Ababa, 23 Mar -- Friendship and cooperation are the two words that best describe relations between the peoples of Ethiopia and the Soviet Union, said Yusuf Ahmed, member of the Workers Party of Ethiopia [WPE] Central Committee, Ethiopian minister of communications and transport, and chairman of the Ethiopian-Soviet Committee of Friendship and Solidarity, in a conversation with a TASS correspondent.

The Soviet Union, he said, has repeatedly shown by action that it is our country's true friend. During difficult times for the Ethiopian revolution, we have always enjoyed our friends' support. This is also happening now, when the Land of the Soviets is providing enormous assistance in carrying out the WPE's program to eliminate the consequences of the drought in Ethiopia.

The Ethiopian-Soviet Committee of Friendship and Solidarity, Yusuf Ahmed stressed, is doing its utmost to strengthen friendly ties and mutual understanding between the two countries' peoples. Prominent Ethiopian politicians, workers, peasants, and cultural and artistic figures take part in the organization's work. Each of them is proud to be making a contribution to the development of Ethiopian-Soviet relations.

RSFSR SUPREME SOVIET SESSION BEGINS IN MOSCOW

Gorbachev Participates

LD260737 Moscow TASS in English 0731 GMT 26 Mar 85

[Text] Moscow March 26 TASS -- The first session of the Eleventh Supreme Soviet of the Russian Federation opened in the Kremlin today. Mikhail Gorbachev, general secretary of the CPSU Central Committee, and other party and state leaders are taking part in its proceedings.

The deputies from the Russian Federation, the largest republic of the USSR with a population of over 142 million, are to elect the Presidium of the Supreme Soviet, a permanent body exercising supreme state power in the republic in the period between sessions. Under the constitution, the Council of Ministers of the republic resigns before the first session of the newly elected Supreme Soviet. The deputies are to appoint the chairman of the Council of Ministers and to endorse the ministers of the Government of the Russian Federation suggested by him.

The Supreme Soviet of the Russian Federation was elected on February 24, 1985.

Attending Leaders Listed

LD260803 Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 0730 GMT 26 Mar 85

[Text] A session of the Supreme Soviet of the Russian Federation of the 11th convocation opened in the Great Kremlin Palace half an hour ago. With a tumultuous, prolonged standing ovation, the deputies and visitors received Comrades Gorbachev, Aliyev, Vorotnikov, Grishin, Gromyko, Solomentsev, Demichev, Dolgikh, Kuznetsov, Ponomarev, Chebrikov, Zimyanin, Kapitonov, Ligachev, and Ryzhkov.

The session was opened by Deputy Vonsovskiy, chairman of the Presidium of the Urals Scientific Center of the USSR Academy of Sciences, and one of the senior deputies of the supreme organ of state power of the republic. Those present paid tribute to the memory of Konstantin Ustinovich Chernenko with a minute's silence.

The session then embarked upon the election of the chairman of the RSFSR Supreme Soviet. Deputy Cribachev, editor in chief of the journal SOVETSKIY SOYUZ, was elected unanimously. Eight deputy chairmen of the republic's Supreme Soviet were elected. The session is continuing its work.

TV Shows Session Opening

OW261105 [Editorial Report] Moscow Television Service in Russian at 0930 GMT on 26 March begins its evening "Vremya" newscast with a 3.5-minute video report on the opening of the RSFSR Supreme Soviet session in the Great Kremlin Palace in Moscow at 1000 [0700 GMT] on 26 March. The video begins with a shot of deputies in the hall standing and applauding. It then cuts to show a medium shot of Gorbachev standing in the Presidium applauding with G.F. Sizov and two unidentified men shown behind him and to his left. The announcer says: "With stormy, prolonged applause the deputies and guests met Comrades Gorbachev, Aliyev, Vorotnikov, Grishin, Gromyko, Solomentsev, Demichev, Dolgikh, Kuznetsov, Ponomarev, Chebrikov, Zimyanin, Kapitonov, Ligachev, and Ryzhkov."

The video then shows Gromyko standing and applauding to Gorbachev's right, and then party leaders and other officials taking their seats. The session is opened by Academician Vonsovskiy, who is shown speaking from the Presidium. The session pays tribute to the memory of Konstantin Ustinovich Chernenko. Vonsovskiy asks those present to be seated. He then says: "Comrades, the Supreme Soviet of the Russian Federation of the new convocation begins its activities at a time when the Communist Party and the Soviet people are selflessly laboring to implement the decisions of the 26th congress and the November 1982 and subsequent plenums of the CPSU Central Committee.

"The results of the March Plenum of the party's Central Committee have been received in the country with unanimous approval. The entire work of the plenum, the decisions adopted, and the election of Comrade Mikhail Sergeyevich Gorbachev as CPSU Central Committee general secretary confirm with great force the continuity of the political course and practical activities of the party's Central Committee.

"Permit me, comrade deputies, to warmly congratulate Mikhail Sergeyevich Gorbachev on your behalf on his election to the highest party post and to wish him grest successes in labor and the best of health." As Vonsovskiy ends his remarks, deputies in the hall are shown rising and applauding.

Video shots during Vonsovskiy's speech show the following seating arrangements of the leadership in the Presidium: Front row, left to right on the screen, Gromyko, Gorbachev, aisle, Ryzhkov, Kapitonov, Zimyanin, unidentified officials. Second row: Aliyev, Solomentsev, Vorotnikov, Grishin, aisle, Ligachev, unidentified officials. Third row: Demichev, Dolgikh, Chebrikov, Kuznetsov, Ponomarev, aisle, Sizov, unidentified officals. Long shots of the Presidium show other unidentified officials to the left and right of the leadership group.

Agenda Announced

LD260839 Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 0800 GMT 26 Mar 85

[Text] As we have already reported, a session of the Russian Federation Supreme Soviet of the 11th convocation began its work today in the Great Kremlin Palace. On the agenda are the following issues: election of the credentials commission of the RSFSR Supreme Soviet; election of the Presidium of the republic's Supreme Soviet; formation of standing commissions of the RSFSR Supreme Soviet; confirmation of decrees of the Presidium of the RSFSR Supreme Soviet; formation of the RSFSR Council of Ministers; formation of the RSFSR Committee of People's Control; election of the RSFSR Supreme Court; on measures to strengthen the organizational work of the administrative and management organs of the RSFSR in implementing the long-term program of land reclamation, and increasing the efficiency of using improved land, in the light of the decisions of the October 1984 CPSU Central Committee Plenum.

Sessions of the supreme soviets of the union republics are also being held today in Azerbaijan, Lithuania, Kirgizia, and Turkmenistan.

Orlov Elected President

LD260935 Moscow TASS in English 0930 GMT 26 Mar 85

[Text] Moscow March 26 TASS -- Vladimir Orlov has been elected the president of the Presidium of the Supreme Soviet of the Russian Federation.

A unanimous decision to this effect was taken today at the first session of the Supreme Soviet of the biggest union republic of the USSR. The session has opened in the Kremlin.

Vladimir Orlov was born in 1921. He graduated from a textile institute. He is a member of the CPSU Central Committee. He was the first secretary of the Kuybyshev Regional Committee of the CPSU from 1967, and has been the first deputy chairman of the Council of Ministers of the Russian Federation since 1979.

Vorotnikov Reelected Chairman

LD261136 Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 1000 GMT 26 Mar 85

[Text] The first session of the RSFSR Supreme Soviet of the 11th convocation is continuing in the Great Kremlin Palace, the report of the Credentials Commission of the republican Supreme Soviet was delivered by its chairman, Comrade (Gagarov). He reported that candidates gained an absolute majority in all constituencies and have been elected as deputies of the supreme organ of state power in the republic. The Credentials Commission proposed that the authority of all elected deputies of the RSFSR Supreme Soviet of the 11th convocation be recognized. The session unanimously adopts the corresponding decision.

The deputies turned to examination of the next item on the agenda, the election of the RSFSR Supreme Soviet Presidium. On the proposal of Deputy Ligachev, secretary of the CPSU Central Committee, Deputy Orlov was elected chairman of the RSFSR Supreme Soviet Presidium. In his speech, Deputy Orlov expressed his gratitude at the great honor bestowed upon him and said that he would make every effort to justify the deputies' confidence. He made proposals regarding the deputy chairmen of the RSFSR Supreme Soviet, the secretary and members of the Presidium. The session unanimously elected the Presidium of the supreme organ of state power of the Russian Federation.

After this, the session formed the Standing Commissions of the RSFSR Supreme Soviet. Deputy Gribachev, acting as chairman, reported that a statement had been received from the RSFSR Council of Ministers on the resignation of its authority. The session adopted the corresponding decision in which the activity of the RSFSR Council of Ministers was approved.

Upon the proposal of Deputy Ryzhkov, secretary of the CPSU Central Committee, the session reelected Deputy Vorotnikov, member of the CPSU Central Committee Politburo, as chairman of the RSFSR Council of Ministers. He is entrusted with the task of presenting the composition of the republican government for confirmation by the session.

The deputies then turned to confirmation of the decrees of the RSFSR Supreme Soviet Presidium.

LIGACHEV, RYZHKOV AT COUNCIL OF ELDERS SESSION

LD260031 Moscow Television Service in Russian 1800 GMT 25 Mar 85

[From the "Vremya" newscast]

[Text] A session of the Council of Elders of the RSFSR Supreme Soviet was held in Kremlin today. There was a preliminary discussion of questions connected with the agenda and order of work of the first session of the Supreme Soviet of the Russian Federation of the 11th convocation, which opens tomorrow. Comrade Ligachev and Ryzhkov conducted the session.

UKRAINIAN CP CENTRAL COMMITTEE PLENUM HELD

AU251632 Kiev Domestic Service in Ukrainian 1515 GMT 25 Mar 85

["Announcement on a plenum of the Ukrainian Communist Party Central Committee"]

[Text] A plenum of the Ukrainian Communist Party Central Committee was held on 25 March. Participating in the plenum proceedings were obkom first and second secretaries, oblispolkom chairmen, ministers, and leaders of some other republic-level organizations who do not belong to the Ukrainian Communist Party Central Committee or Auditing Commission.

Opening the plenum, Vladimir Vasilyevich Shcherbitskiy, CPSU Central Committee Politburo member and Ukrainian Communist Party Central Committee first secretary, said: On 10 March 1985, our party and the Soviet people suffered a heavy loss: Konstantin Ustinovich Chernenko, CPSU Central Committee general secretary and USSR Supreme Soviet Presidium chairman, died. The name of Konstantin Ustinovich Chernenko, prominent party figure and statesman, patriot and internationalist who dedicated all his life to the cause of the Leninist party, to the struggle for bringing about the ideals of communism and peace on earth, will remain forever in the memory of Communists and all Soviet people.

The plenum participants paid tribute to the memory of Konstantin Ustinovich Chernenko with one minute of silence.

The plenum participants also paid tribute to the memory of Aleksey Fedoseyevich Vatchenko, CPSU Central Committee member, Ukrainian Communist Party Central Committee Politburo member, USSR Supreme Soviet Presidium deputy chairman, and Ukrainian Supreme Soviet Presidium chairman.

The plenum examined the progress made in implementing the decisions of the 26th CPSU Congress on cadre policy and the tasks of the republic's party organizations for further improving work among cadres. A report on this item was delivered by Comrade Shcherbitskiy.

Participating in the debate were Comrades Yelchenko, Kiev Gorkom first secretary; Mironov, Donetsk Obkom first secretary; (Kalantay), Pervomayskiy Raykom first secretary in Kharkov Oblast; Dobrik, Lvov Obkom first secretary; Cherbayev, turners brigade leader at the January Insurrection Heavy Crane Building Association in Odessa; Grinko, Ukrainian minister of the coal industry; Boyko, Dnepropetrovsk Obkom first secretary; (Kotlyuba), party committee secretary at the Lenin Transformer Production Association in Zaporozhye; Goncharenko, Voroshilovgrad Obkom first secretary; Galkin, Ukrainian minister of ferrous metallurgy; Mysnichenko, Kharkov Obkom first secretary; Girenko, Kherson Obkom first secretary; Grechko, Ukrainian minister of construction of heavy industry enterprises; Morgun, Poltava Obkom first secretary; Gavrilova, chairman of the Zdobutok Zhovtnya Kolkhoz in Talnovskiy Rayon, Cherkassy Oblast; Tkachenko, Ukrainian minister of agriculture; and Mironenko, Ukrainian Komsomol Central Committee first secretary.

A concluding speech at the plenum was delivered by Comrade Shcherbitskiy.

The plenum adopted a decision on the issue discussed, which will be published in the press.

The plenum elected Valentina Semenovna Shevchenko as member of the Ukrainian Communist Party Central Committee Politburo.

Shevchenko's Biography

AU260911 Kiev Domestic Service in Ukrainian 1800 GMT 25 Mar 85

[Text] Born on 12 March 1935 into a worker's family, Valentina Semenovna Shevchenko is a Ukrainian, a CPSU member since 1957, and has a higher education -- she graduated from the Shevchenko State University in Kiev, and is a candidate of pedagogical sciences. From 1954, she has been a senior Young Pioneer leader, a secondary school teacher, and a secretary in Krivoy Rog City Komsomol Committee. From 1960, she has been a secretary in Dzerzhinskiy Raykom in Krivoy Rog City. From 1962 to 1969, she was a secretary in the Ukrainian Komsomol Central Committee, from 1969 Ukrainian deputy minister of education, from 1972 chairman of the Ukrainian Society for Friendship and Cultural Relations With Foreign Countries, and from 1975 Ukrainian Supreme Soviet Presidium deputy chairman. At the 25th and the 26th Ukrainian Communist Party Congresses, she was elected Ukrainian Communist Party Central Committee member. She has been a deputy to the Ukrainian Supreme Soviet of the ninth, 10th, and 11th convocation.

She has been awarded the October Revolution Order, two Labor Red Banner orders, the Friendship-Among-Peoples Order, medals, and a honorary certificate of the Ukrainian Supreme Soviet Presidium.

KIEV COURT SENTENCES EMBEZZLER TO DEATH

PM260955 Moscow SELSKAYA ZHIZN in Russian 24 Mar 85 p 4

[Unattributed report: "At the USSR MVD"]

[Text] Dubchak, chief accountant of the Ukrainian SSR Ministry of Rural Construction's Broaryselstroy PMK-8 Trust, entered into a criminal conspiracy with Selyukom, his deputy, and workers in a number of stores in Kiev and Kiev Oblast and systematically embezzled state funds. The loss sustained is estimated at R327,000. A considerable part of the sum embezzled has been recovered by the state.

The Kiev Oblast Court has sentenced Dubchak to death. The accessories to the crime have been sentenced to various periods of imprisonment.

REPUBLIC CP'S DISCUSS MARCH PLENUM RESULTS

LD260033 Moscow Television Service in Russian 1800 GMT 25 Mar 85

[From the "Vremya" newscast]

[Text] Constant attention to personnel -- the Extraordinary March 1985 CPSU Central Committee Plenum directed party organizations to this. The results of the plenum and the tasks of Communists in the light of its requirements were discussed today at plenums of the Central Committees of the Communist Parties of the Ukraine, Azerbaijan, Kirgizia, and Turkmenistan. Reports were delivered in Kiev by Comrade Shcherbitskiy, member of the CPSU Central Committee Politburo, first secretary of the Central Committee of the Ukrainian Communist Party; in Baku by Comrade Bagirov, first secretary of the Central Committee of the Azerbaijan Communist Party; in Frunze by Comrade Usubaliyev, first secretary of the Central Committee of the Kirgiz Communist Party; and in Ashkhabad by Comrade Bapurov, first secretary of the Central Committee of the Turkmenistan Communist Party.

MISSING SOVIET DIPLOMAT GRANTED ASYLUM IN U.S.

LD241411 New Delhi PTI in English 1230 GMT 24 Mar 85

[Text] New Delhi, Mar 23 (PTI) -- The Soviet diplomat, Mr Igor Gezha, who disappeared a week ago, is now in United States having been granted political asylum there. It was officially confirmed here today that Mr Gezha, third secretary in the Information Department of the Soviet Embassy in Delhi, had defected to the United States. The Soviet ambassador to India, Mr V.N. Rykov, informed the Indian foreign secretary, Mr Romesh Bhadari, last night that Mr Gezha had gone to the U.S.

The U.S. charge d'affaires here, Mr Gordon Streeb, later confirmed that the Soviet diplomat had been granted political asylum and was safe in America. Mr Streeb, according to official sources, stated that Mr Gezha sought political asylum in the U.S. at a point outside India.

Meanwhile, there was speculation in the Western diplomatic circles that Mr Gezha could have taken a flight to Katmandu on Sunday and flown from there to the U.S. The press attache in the U.S. Embassy here, Mr W. D. Miller when contacted said he had no comments to offer.

Mr Gezha, 37, vanished during his usual early morning walk on Sunday in Lodhi Gardens, a well-known park. His Soviet built car was found near the park. The diplomat, who had been in India for five years, was due to leave Delhi soon. His disappearance was followed on Thursday by the murder of another Soviet diplomat, Mr Vladistav Khitrichenko.

Khitrichenko was shot dead near the embassy by two men riding a motorcycle as he was returning in a chauffeur driven car. Police had swung into action following a complaint lodged about Mr Gezha's disappearance by Mr G. Galkouskvy, first secretary in the embassy. As part of its search for the diplomat police raised the premises of Afghan resistance movement in the city and interrogated a large number of Afghan nationals but without any success.

After the murder of the Soviet official police registered a case of abduction and intensified its search for Mr Gezha as well as the killers of Khitrichenko. A Soviet Embassy functionary described the report of Mr Gezha's defection as "unbelievable" and said he was not a person to do so.

KIROV OBKOM ELECTS NEW FIRST SECRETARY

PM251503 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 23 Mar 85 First Edition p 2

[TASS report: "Party Obkom Plenum"]

[Text] Kirov, 22 Mar -- A plenum of Kirov CPSU Obkom was held today to discuss an organizational question. The plenum released I.P. Bespalov from his duties as CPSU Obkom first secretary in connection with his retirement on pension.

V.V. Bakatin, a CPSU Central Committee inspector, was elected first secretary of Kirov CPSU Obkom.

P.A. Smolskiy, deputy chief of the CPSU Central Committee Party Organizational Work Section, took part in the plenum's work.

KAZAKH PARTY MEETING REVIEWS ENERGY SYSTEMS

GF251900 Alma-Ata Domestic Service in Russian 1515 GMT 25 Mar 85

[Summary] At its regular meeting, the Kazakhstan Communist Party Central Committee Bureau examined a question on the condition of the organization party work of [word indistinct] rayon party organizations in Mangyshlak Oblast and their influence on the solution of socioeconomic tasks.

It was noted that the rayon's party committee is constantly improving the styles and methods of the organizational and ideological-political activity. The effectiveness of the primary party organizations and the leading role of Communists is increasing in agricultural and cultural construction. As a result of the considerable success achieved in the socioeconomic development of the rayon, the production of agricultural products increased; the work of the industry, transport, and communications enterprises and the cultural, everyday, medical, and trade services to the population improved; and popular education and physical culture and sports were further developed.

Positively evaluating the activity of [word indistinct] rayon, the Central Committee Bureau recommended, in light of the demands of the March 1985 CPSU Central Committee Plenum, that the raykom mobilize all the branches of the party, soviet, public, and social organizations for further consolidating the economy, developing the rayon's culture, and raising the well-being of the population and to concentrate the forces of Communists and all workers on successfully fulfilling and overfulfilling the plans and socialist pledges of the current year and the 5-year plan as a whole and on adequately responding to the 27th CPSU Congress and the 16th Congress of the Kazakhstan Communist Party.

The Central Committee adopted a resolution on a question related to the preparation of power stations and energy and fuel systems by the Kazakh SSR Ministry of Power and Electrification. The party obkoms, the oblast soviet executive committees, and the ministries and departments were tasked with offering utmost assistance to the energy systems and fuel and power stations, with ensuring the repair of equipment, and with consolidating the work for economizing fuel and energy resources. Other questions also were reviewed.

TURKMEN CP CENTRAL COMMITTEE MAKES PARTY CHANGES

GF251906 Ashkhabad Domestic Service in Russian 1645 GMT 25 Mar 85

[Excerpts] The 20th Plenum of the Turkmenistan Communist Party Central Committee was held in Ashkhabad today. The participants in the plenum observed 1 minute's silence in honor of the bright memory of Konstantin Ustinovich Chernenko.

Comrade Gapurov, first secretary of the Turkmenistan Communist Party Central Committee, delivered a report on the tasks of the republican party organizations for further improving the work with cadres in light of the demands of the CPSU Central Committee.

The plenum passed relevant resolutions on the questions discussed. The plenum reviewed an organizational question. The plenum discharged Karryyev from the staff of the members of the Turkmenistan Communist Party Central Committee Bureau due to his transfer to another post.

The plenum elected Niyazov, chairman of the Turkmen SSR Council of Ministers, as member of the Turkmenistan Communist Party Central Committee Bureau. The plenum relieved Leshchinskiy of his commitments as chief of the Petroleum, Gas and Chemical Industry Department of the Turkmenistan Communist Party Central Committee due to his transfer to another post and approved the appointment of (Grishinko) as chief of the Petroleum, Gas and Chemical Industry Department of the Turkmenistan Communist Party Central Committee after relieving him of his commitments as chief of the Industry Department of the Turkmenistan Communist Party Central Committee. It approved the appointment of (Bagenov) as chief of the Industry Department of the Turkmenistan Communist Party Central Committee and (Krugletsov) as chief of the Agriculture and Food Industry Department of the Turkmenistan Communist Party Central Committee and relieved Mogilevets of his commitments due to transfer to another post. It approved the appointment of (Kovusov) as chief of the Construction and Municipal Services Department of the Turkmenistan Communist Party Central Committee and relieved Osipov of his commitments due to his transfer to another post. It approved the appointment of Amangldyyeva as chief of the Culture Department of the Turkmenistan Communist Party Central Committee and relieved Karliyeva of his commitments due to his transfer to another post.

With this, the plenum concluded its work. [Name indistinct] an instructor at the Organizational Party Work Department of the CPSU Central Committee, took part in the work of the plenum.

YAKUT DEPUTY CHAIRMAN DISCUSSES RAILWAY PLANS

LD222347 Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 1130 GMT 22 Mar 85

[Text] What will the Berkakit-Tommot-Yakutsk railway give to the national economy of Yakutia? At the request of our correspondent, this question is answered by (Yuriy Vasilyevich Kaydyshev), deputy chairman of the Yakutia ASSR Council of Ministers:

The Republic of Yakutia is a major supplier of gold, diamonds, tungsten, and antimony. More than half the union's prospected reserves of tin are distributed on its territory; large reserves of coking coal, iron ore, apatites, and rare metals have been prospected in southern Yakutia. However, extraction and the functioning of the republic's entire national economy are hampered by severely limited transportation. Freight deliveries to Yakutia are mainly carried by river transport along the Lena River via the port of Osetrovo. The transportation system is a restricting factor in the further development of the republic's productive forces.

At the same time, the demand for deliveries is growing. A number of decisions have been made in recent years to determine the further development in Yakutia of nonferrous metallurgy, the coal industry, electrical power engineering, and the creation of new branches of industry. The technical and economic grounds have been elaborated for building the Berkakit-Yakutsk railway. Construction is scheduled for 1985-95. The arrival of the railway in Yakutsk will make it possible to solve the task of speeding up the development of the Yakut Republic's productive forces and those of the country's northeast.

BRIEFS

VESSELS COMPLETE EXPERIMENTAL TRIP -- Far East Fleet vessels have successfully completed the first experimental trip through the northern sector of the Sea of Okhotsk. This has been reported in a dispatch from Magadan by Valentian Gerasimov. The De Kapitan Kondratyev and the icebreaker Magadan covered 480 miles in complicated ice conditions from Magadan to the Severo-Evenskiy Rayon of Magadan Oblast, bringing thousands of metric tons of cargo. The ice was worse near Ostrov Savyalova, and thus the more powerful ice-breakers Admiral Makarov came to help. The cargo was unloaded directly onto the ice, since the shallow water did not allow such big vessels to directly enter the port. Suitable ice was located in Varkhalamskaya Guba for the unloading operation. [Summary] [Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 0900 GMT 15 Mar 85 LD]

CONVOY PASSES THROUGH ICE ZONE -- A convoy of ships has been successfully guided through a 360-mile ice zone to Magadan port; the operation took over 1 and 1/2 days. The ships -- the Kapitan Markov, the Shatura, the Sergey Yesenin, and the Pavlovo, -- were carrying cargo for Siberia. [Summary] [Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 1730 GMT 17 Mar 85 LD]

SUGAR-LADEN VESSEL LEAVES CUBA -- The motor vessel Novgorod is returning home from the Cuban port of Mariel transporting more than 12,000 metric tons of sugar. [Summary] [Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 1400 GMT 14 Mar 85 LD]

ICEBREAKER SAILS TO ARCTIC -- Murmansk -- After escorting a convoy of vessels through ice near the Severnaya Dvina Estuary, the atomic icebreaker Leonid Brezhnev today set course for the arctic where a complex situation has developed. Its return to the very important Murmansk-Dudinka route will speed up the delivery of goods and foodstuffs for the workers of Norilsk. [Summary] [Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 1400 GMT 18 Mar 85 LD]

KOLKHOZ REPRESENTATIVES' 1986 MEETING PLANNED

PM260921 Moscow SELSKAYA ZHIZN in Russian 24 Mar 85 p 3

[Ye. Petrakov report: "At the Union Council of Kolkhozes"]

[Text] A routine session of the Union Council of Kolkhozes was held in Moscow yesterday. It examined the important questions of developing social production and improving the working conditions of kolkhoz peasants.

A.N. Tkachenko, chairman of the Ukrainian SSR Council of Kolkhozes and republic minister of agriculture, spoke about the republic kolkhoz councils' activity in the social development of the countryside. The session noted that Ukrainian kolkhozes, making use of a strengthened material and technical base and the achievements of science and advanced experience, are building more housing, children's preschool establishments, and other facilities and are purposefully carrying out the work of providing young people with vocational guidance. Measures are being taken to improve rural workers' medical services.

However, the session noted that the Ukraine's union councils are still not making full use of potential for speeding up work connected with reorganizing the countryside and creating proper working conditions. In the resolution it adopted on the question the Union Council outlined specific measures aimed at eliminating the aforementioned shortcomings.

G.G. Gurbanov, chairman of the Turkmen SSR Union of Kolkhozes and the republic's agriculture minister, delivered a report on progress made by the republic's kolkhozes in fulfilling the decisions of the CPSU Central Committee May (1982) Plenum. The union council resolution outlined measures to improve the efficiency of social production in Turkmenistan.

V.K. Mesyats, chairman of the union council and USSR agriculture minister, delivered a report on the holding of an all-union meeting of representatives of union republic kolkhoz councils. It was decided to hold the meeting in 1986.

The union council heard a report on the use of the kolkhoz members' centralized social insurance fund in 1984.

I.I. Skiba, first deputy chief of the USSR Central Committee Agriculture and Food Industry Department, took part in the session.

BRIEFS

SPECTOGRAPHIC CROP INSPECTION -- An inspection laboratory fitted on a IL-14 airplane by the Kazakh Hydrometeorology Scientific Research Institute makes it possible, with the use of video technology, to take spectrograms of winter crops, which can be used to inspect the state of the plants and determine what work is needed on winter-damaged crops. The videotapes of the spectrograms are sent out to the farmers from the institute within hours. The plane made its first flight today in the republic's southern oblasts. [Summary] [Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 1638 GMT 21 Mar 85 LD]

COSMOS 1643 SATELLITE LAUNCHED 25 MARCH

LD251806 Moscow TASS in English 1746 GMT 25 Mar 85

[Text] Moscow March 25 Mar TASS -- The Soviet Union today launched another satellite in the "Cosmos" series.

"Cosmos-1643" carries scientific equipment for continuing space exploration.

It was inserted into a flight path with the following parameters: Initial period of revolution -- 89.1 minutes, maximum distance from earth (apogee) -- 300 kilometers, minimum distance (perigee) -- 190 kilometers, inclination of the orbit -- 64.8 degrees.

Besides the scientific equipment, the sputnik carries radio systems for the precise measuring of the orbit's parameters and a radio telemetry system to beam data on the operation of the instruments and scientific equipment back to earth.

The on-board equipment is functioning normally.

The coordinating and computing center is processing incoming information.

BRIEFS

CHUKOTKA MULTILINGUAL TELEVISION CASTS -- Regular broadcasts in Russian, Chukotan, and Eskimo have begun from the Anadyr television studio. The complex color television equipment was built by specialists from Kirovograd, who also helped staff of the Chukotka radio and television center to learn to use the new equipment. Apart from local transmissions, television can now be seen in color and carries two programs from Moscow. [Text] [Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 1300 GMT 10 Mar 85 LD]